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NO. 15

পদকপ্তক।

স্বপ্ন হইয়াছে।

কুলা ও চাঁকা।

পরিশিষ্ট হইয়াছে।

অমৃতবাজার পত্রিকা আকিষে প্রাপ্তব্য।

অনুরাগবলী।

শ্রীমদার দাস, প্রণীত।

এই বানি উপদেশের বৈশিষ্ট্য গ্রহণ করুন।

বর্মের পূর্বে লিখিত।

মুলা হইয়াছে।

অমৃতবাজার পত্রিকা আকিষে প্রাপ্তব্য।

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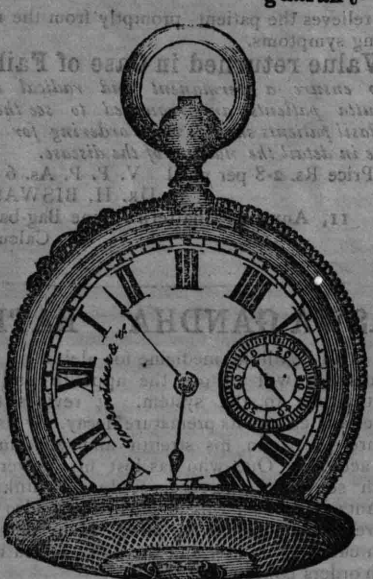
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Beware of imitation! Seeing the extensive
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at the same time it kept off headache and other

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ACIDITY and DYSPEPSIA are the two most com-
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fortunate as to declare their immunity from these. In
view of the fact that though apparently harmless in the
embryonic stage, Acidity and Dyspepsia shatter and
undermine the constitution in the end and lead to its
total wreckage, it must be held that they are dangerous
in their insidiousness.

After years of incessant toil and experiment, I have
discovered a medicine which, can confidently say
will cure the patient of acidity, and its worse stages of
dyspepsia in a short time, effectively and radically,
however chronic and long-standing the complaint
however violent its attack, the Acidity Pill will give
instant and permanent relief as has been proved in
hundreds of cases. Here are a few unsolicited
testimonials:

The Hon'ble G. M. Chitnavis C.I.E.,
Member of H. E. the Viceroy's Legislative
Council writes:—"The Acidity Pills are giving
satisfaction to all those on whom I tried them."

Babu Bhoob Tash Banerjee, Deputy
Magistrate of Dacca, writes under date of 6th
March, 1898:—"Many thanks for your Acidity Pills
I was suffering from Dyspepsia and Colic pains of the
last 18 years. I tried many kinds of medicines to
no effect. Some of them gave me temporary relief
only for a day or two. But since I have been taking
your pills (3 weeks or more) I have not had any
attack for a moment even during this time. The
Pill is an excellent medicine for this nasty disease
which is very painful. Please send me three boxes of
the pills per V. P. P. at your earliest convenience
and oblige."

(From Babu Ramdhani Paure, Deputy
Inspector of Schools, Arrah) "I am really glad to
certify that your Acidity Pills have a wonderful power
to cure ailments which are intended for and I have
to thank you very much for the pills you sent me 7
December last."

(From Mr. S. O. Haldar, Political
Agency Gligit.)

I am exceedingly glad to let you know that your
Acidity Pills have miraculously relieved me of the colic
pains and Lewel-Complaints from which I was very
badly suffering for the last two years and more.

Kumar Hemendra Krishna of the Sovabazar
Placidly writes: "I am glad to state that I have
deri much benefit by the use of a box of your Acidity
viji. Really I did not expect so happy a result. Kindly
send me two more boxes."

Babu Nilmoni Dey, Assistant Settlement Officer
writes from Camp Patpur, Dr. Mozafarpur:—"I have
tried your Acidity Pill and found them to be and
excellent remedy in removing acidity immediately.

They are a great boon after a heavy dinner. They are
in valuable in the Mofussil. They should find place
every tourist's bag. Please send me two boxes imme-
diately."

The Amrita Bazar Patrika says: Dr. H.
Biswas's Acidity pill has an extraordinary digestive
power so that men suffering from Dyspepsia may
give a fair trial. It is exclusively prepared from some
active herbs is perfectly safe.

Babu Saradai Lal Sircar, M. A. writes:—"I
have tried Dr. Biswas's Acidity Pills, and found them
to be of great use not only in the case of Acidity but
in general Dyspepsia. The medicine, it seems, is
prepared solely from indigenous herbs, and perfectly
harmless. Dyspeptic persons will find it to be a great
boon for curing this dead disease."

Babu T. K. Bakshi, Professor, Govern-
ment College, Jabalpur, writes:—"Dr. Bis-
was's medicine for Acidity and Dyspepsia has been tried
in our family with marked efficacy and I can safely
declare that suffers who may give it a fair trial are
sure to derive much benefit from it."

The Acidity Pill is a vegetable preparation. We
guarantee a cure and
Refund the Price in case of failure.

Price Rupee one per box. V. P. charge extra.
Do not fail to give it a trial when every other medicine
patent or prescribed, has failed to give you relief. You
will realise its worth by a week's use only.

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we had to renounce the name of BATABAL and Co.,

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common name and style of HAHNEMANN HOMOEOPATHIC

Branch, at No. 2-1 College Street, and the latter as

HAHNEMANN HOMOEOPATHIC Branch, in the same

house and with the same stock of medicines, etc.,

the proprietors retaining the name. We need hardly

add that our medicines will, as hitherto, be of the

same superior quality and imported from the same

firms in England, America, Germany and Italy as

before.

We therefore respectfully request our constituents

both in town and in the mofussil to send their

orders for Homoeopathic as well as Electro-

THE
Amrita Bazar Patrika.

CALCUTTA, FEBRUARY 26, 1899.

MRS. BESANT AND THE HINDU
COLLEGE.

MRS. BESANT, who is a philanthropist, is avowedly a Hindu. Is not this a miracle? How is it that she, a European lady with masculine brains, should come to feel such a love for the Hindus and accept Hinduism? Here is her explanation, which we quote from her speech at the 23rd Anniversary of the Theosophical Society at Madras:—

While nation after nation died and was buried, people after people whose dust scarcely remains, India—India older than the oldest of these—is not yet dead and buried. Her dust is not yet on the funeral pyre, nor is it to be found in the urns of monuments that are well nigh gone. India still lives, breathing faint and low. India still lives though even her sons despair of her, and will not live her life nor think her thought. India, the ancient mother, most ancient of all—India still stands as Durga stands. Eternity lies behind the goddess, but she remains ever young, immortal in her youth, for spirit knows no age, no birth, no dying. And where a nation stands, emblem of spirituality, she must live, though her sons deny her and though her lovers stand afar off. The mother looking over the land and asking for some one to serve her, raised her eyes to the mighty Gods and said:—"Lo! I will take some of my children's souls, whom I have nursed at the breast of my wisdom, souls that are penetrated with love of my knowledge, souls that are waiting to serve me. Lo! I will call them and send them forth to other nations. They shall be born among other peoples, and I will clothe them in bodies that they know not, and make their faces strange in the land that really gave them birth. They shall carry with them from their birth the wisdom that they sucked from my breast. Their love shall remain warm when the love of the children in my land has grown cold. Then will I bring them back to my household. I will draw them over ocean and land, from the far-off nations of earth, and I will plant them here to tell my children what they should do to recall amongst them the memory of their ancient faith, the possibility of revival that lies in the spiritual nature." And they from many lands have heard the mother's call. They, from across many oceans, have come to her summoning voice, and they ask her own children, for very shame, to do her bidding, and the children of her past, returning in the garb of the stranger, should be truer to India than those born on Indian soil. Such is what the mother has been doing, for many years.

In other words, Blavatsky, Olcott, Besant and others were Hindus in their previous births, and they have come down on earth to help the Hindus in their upward march. Those who believe in re-birth, find in the work done by these European Theosophists, an excellent proof for the establishment of their theory. They say that unless the three persons, mentioned above, had mastered the subtle philosophy of the Hindus in a previous birth, they could never have mastered them so easily, as they have done in this birth. As the duck naturally takes to water, these Westerners naturally take to the Hindu philosophy, and, therefore, the theory of re-birth must be true. Others, who have no faith in the theory, can yet accept, without difficulty, the proposition of Mrs. Besant by the supposition that, it is quite possible for higher spirits, to take a re-birth for the purpose of carrying out a good object on this earth.

Those who have no faith in re-birth, but have faith in spirit communication, may accept the proposition of Mrs. Besant by the supposition that, she is under the control of the spirit of a Hindu saint. But to return to the point. Mrs. Besant feels like a Hindu, believes like a Hindu, and loves India with the love of a Hindu, and that is the fact before us.

Every one knows that Mrs. Besant was, in the beginning, a disciple of Mr. Bradlaugh, who, though a philanthropist, had no faith in God. She, however, subsequently became a Hindu. This is her own account. She met Madame Blavatsky, and the meeting violently affected her, but there was a fierce struggle, for she was not willing to yield:—

We rose to go, and for a moment the veil lifted, and two brilliant piercing eyes of Madame met mine, and with a yearning, throbbing voice:—"Oh! my dear Mrs. Besant, if you would only come among us!" I felt a well-nigh uncontrollable desire to bend down and kiss her, under the compulsion of that yearning voice, those compelling eyes, but with a flash of the old unbending pride and an inward jeer at my own folly, I said, a commonplace polite good-bye, and turned away with some inane courteous and evasive remark. "Child," she said to me long afterwards, "your pride is terrible; you are as proud as Lucifer himself!"

On receiving my diploma, I betook myself to Lansdowne-road, where I found H. P. B. alone. I went over to her, bent down and kissed her, but said no word. "You have joined the Society?" "Yes." "You read the report?" "Yes." "Well?" "I knelt down before her and clasped her hands in mine, looking straight into her eyes." "My answer is—will you accept me as your pupil and give me the honour of proclaiming you my teacher in the face of the world?" Her stern set face softened, the unwonted gleam of tears sprang to her eyes; then, with a dignity more than regal, she placed her hand upon my head:—"You are a noble woman. My Master bless you."

Thus Mrs. Besant became a pupil of Madame, but she went a step further than her master, for she added the element of devotion to the philosophy of the Theosophists, and finally accepted Sree Krishna as the object of her adoration. In the speech, from which we quoted in the beginning of this article, Mrs. Besant talked

of the evil which beset India. She also talked of the remedy. Here it is:—

Has it ever struck you—you have been told the words so often that the words must be ancient in your ears—that India when she was greatest was most spiritual, that her literature, mighty in intellect, is the result of spiritual influence, and that even her material prosperity was the very lowest of the blessings of her Gods? India in the past was given by the Supreme the one great duty amongst the nations of the world, to be the mother of religion, to be the cradle of faith, to send out to all other peoples the truths of spiritual life. That was the primary duty of India, and all other good things were hers as long as she fulfilled her Karma. As gradually she fell away from that position of the mighty imperial mother of the world's faith, she abdicated the throne of the world's thought, she lost all else that made her glorious in the past.

And what shall be the result? I have said that India was not dead. India has begun again to climb the ladder. She is no longer on the lowest step. Her feet are no longer held by the mire of materialism, by the binding mud of the search for earthly gold. She is beginning to show the reality of her life. And I tell you, children of India, that the future which lies before you shall be greater than your past has been, mightier in spiritual knowledge, grander in spiritual achievement, more potent in spiritual life, than the very Rishis themselves who are without, standing waiting, shall again find their home on Indian soil. India that the Gods have blessed—and that blessing shall never be withdrawn—shall take again her place on the throne of spiritual truth, and shall take again her place on the throne of spiritual empire and shall rule again, shall find other nations coming to her for spiritual truth, and shall again see the peoples of the world ask for her spiritual riches. And, as she rises to that spiritual pre-eminence, again revered as the mother, as the teacher of nations, in the train of that shall come, with the love and reverence of the world that shall surround her, every blessing that lies waiting on the knees of the Gods, all the prosperity, the comfort and the wealth that men in the childhood of the soul desire. But these can only be safely enjoyed and can only be wisely used when the greatest in the nation live the life that is simple, frugal, holy, in the discharge of duty, and show that the spiritual man is the ideal of the humanity. Then only, when the leaders of the nation are spiritual, all else that the heart desires shall they obtain."

India is to be regenerated by a religious up-heaval, not by a religion which imparts ferocity but spirituality. It is spirituality alone which can give vitality to the weakened system of the Indians. Let the goal of India's ambition be "the teachership of nations," as Mrs. Besant puts it.

Mrs. Besant has come down from her high position to be a sutor, for our sake. She is appealing for funds for the college; India should listen to it and support her in her humiliating position as a sutor.

LORD CURZON AS A SYMPATHETIC
VICEROY.

We have said that India is in blank despair, and that the discontent is deeper among the lower than among the higher classes. We have further said that in Lord Curzon, we have at last found an able Viceroy. This one can find from his Lordship's utterances. Viceroy comes and go in the midst of the roar of cannon, that is the only indication that they give of their arrival and departure. They allow themselves to be hypnotized by their ministers, and cowed into obedience by the Secretary of State, and when at last they leave these shores, they get a certificate from the *Times* for the excellent work done by them. But Lord Curzon speaks independently and intelligently. His Lordship has a tireless and industrious brain. Whenever his Lordship takes up a question, he studies it with great care and forms a judgment of his own—usually a sound one. Indeed, so clear-sighted is Lord Curzon that he has already given the Indians many points on subjects, new to him but familiar to them, to ponder over. If the Indians are therefore in raptures over the new Viceroy they have good reasons for it. Lord Curzon has been able to create the impression upon the Indian mind, which no previous Viceroy succeeded in doing, that he is not in the hands of his ministers and that he looks into all things with his own eyes. And hence His Excellency has become so popular within so short a time.

About the superior ability of Lord Curzon there is no doubt; indeed, it seems to us that Lord Curzon's advent in India is a serious loss to England. But will his Lordship utilize his talents for the good of the people? Of course, this is a matter on which one can never be certain. Every one in India hopes and prays that his abilities may prove advantageous to the people of the country. For ourselves we have every hope that His Excellency's rule will prove a blessing. For, any one can see, he speaks with sympathy. It is quite true every Viceroy tries to do so in the beginning but gives it up ultimately in despair. There is a ring of sincerity in the words of Lord Curzon which are unmistakable. Nay, there is a look of sincerity in his fine presence which carries conviction that he is not only an intelligent but also a good man.

Do you know why the Indians are neglected? It is because Viceroys listen through the ears of the ministers. It is because Viceroys consider themselves to be in the pay of the Secretary of State. And it is because Viceroys argue wrongly, that is to say agree to support measures which are untenable. But Lord Curzon will never, we can take it for granted, agree to be a mere tool, in the hands of any body, and to argue wrongly before the public,—his pride will not permit it. It is simply impossible for a man like him

to support a proposal which is untenable, and it is impossible for a man of his great mind to agree to be a tool. Thus if Lord Curzon agrees to support the Municipal Bill he will have to give reasons which are sound and satisfactory. But if His Excellency has no such reasons, he will prefer giving up office to support a measure which, he knows, cannot be supported. Now, as we do not want a favour but bare justice, we have every reason to hope that India will fare exceedingly well under Lord Curzon.

Lord George Hamilton declared in his Chiswick speech that Government ought to be congratulated on its success, and not blamed for its failures. This means that his Lordship believes that, if there is discontent in India, it is because the people are unreasonable. But the *Times* does not support that view. It admits that there is discontent, and also that the administrators are responsible for it. When the tree-smearing scare created a sensation, the *Times* said—"Conscience makes cowards of us all." It was then that the *Times*, for the first time, at a moment of excitement, forgot itself; and made the confession, that the Indians had cause for discontent and that Englishmen were responsible for it.

The other day we were reading the biennial address of the Governor of a State in the United States, to his subjects. Governors in that country have to give an account of their work, every two years, to the people. As a steward submits his report to his master, so was the Governor referred to above, addressing his people, going into details about their minutest concerns. Why do not Magistrates here render such an account to the people of their districts, every two years? Yes, we have the annual Reports of local rulers, but they are meant for the Viceroy, for his successor, for his colleagues and for the English people,—and certainly not for the people. It is quite true a report, like the one submitted by the United States Governor, is furnished by the Secretary of State to Parliament, and is called a report on the moral and material progress of India. But, then, it is submitted to the British people and Parliament, and not to the people of this country, and it is read by very few. Thus the rulers here and their subjects are apparently strangers to one another.

The average Indian has, of course, some knowledge of the existence of the Government but it is through the police. It is the police that brings the British Government to the notice of the people. The people know that they have over them a power which is irresistible, and which should be avoided by all means, as far as that is possible. And what is the British Government to the masses of India? To them it is a power which sends people to jail! It is the police which represents the British Government before the masses of India.

When Sir R. Temple was Governor of Bombay he complained to the writer of this article, that the people were so stupid as not to come forward to accept the charity of Government, for a famine was then raging in the Presidency of Bombay. We told him that the lower classes of the people could never persuade themselves to believe that Government would give them rice without making them pay for it a hundredfold! It is difficult to persuade the lower classes to believe that Englishmen have sentiments like them. Now, as Englishmen have fine sentiments, and as they are at least as good as the Indians are, we do not see why Englishmen and Indians should misunderstand one another. We do not see why Englishmen should not treat the Indians as fellow-beings, nay, as brothers. Lord Curzon should point the way. His Excellency should mix with the people, talk with the lowest, and give a lesson to the petty despots who are making British rule and the English race so unpopular in India.

THE CASE OF MR. AUGIER
AS TOLD BY HIMSELF.

It will be remembered that Mr. J. W. Augier, late Sub-Deputy Magistrate of Purulia, was convicted and sentenced to six months' rigorous imprisonment by Mr. McGuire, Deputy Commissioner of Purulia, and honourably acquitted by the High Court on appeal. The suggestion was that he had tried to obtain possession of a young Brahmin girl, who had been recruited as a coolie, with the help of a coolie contractor, Mr. Law, who personated a District Superintendent of Police. Now, there are three or rather four parties to this case. Mr. Augier the Sub-Deputy Magistrate; Mr. Law, a coolie contractor; Mr. Laing, another coolie contractor; and Mr. McGuire, the District Magistrate. The facts, briefly stated, are very curious: The Brahmin girl, alluded to above, was a minor and had been recruited as a coolie. Mr. Laing refused to accept her, because she was a Brahmin and not a Kurni, as had previously been represented to him. Notwithstanding this, we find her detained in his coolie depot. The question arises,—why was she kept confined and not sent back to her people by Mr. Laing when he was not willing to accept her? Mr. Augier, who is an intimate friend of Mr. Laing, explains this by telling the following thrilling story:—

The register in question he (Mr. Augier) got from Law by a mere accident. He had never told him to get it. When he got the book, it struck him that it might throw light on a little girl that Mr. Laing had previously spoken to him about. Mr. Laing had told him about a month before that there was a girl called Deoki in the depot who was a Brahmin and he would

neither send her to Assam nor send her home as she was a Brahmin and a minor and he did not like to send her back to her people as it would be a dead loss to him. Accused told him to at once inform the Deputy Commissioner about it. Two or three days after, they again met and in the course of a conversation Mr. Laing informed accused that he had induced Deoki to select a husband from among the young coolies in his depot and that they were actually living together as man and wife. Accused told him it was very silly of him to tell him these things and that he hoped that there were not many Englishmen in India who would pimp for coolies.

Now, the story appears to be so incredible that we would fain not believe in it; but Mr. Augier actually made the above statement before the court. In his memorial, which he has submitted to Government, through Mr. Forbes, Commissioner of the Chota Nagpore Division, he makes equally startling statements. Says he:—

Mr. Laing, who was an intimate friend of mine, had told me that the police were in his pay and that he had no fear of being prosecuted while doing coolie business. About the beginning of May he purchased from one Jehangir Khan, a young Brahmin girl and brought her from Jabalpur to Purulia. About the middle of May Mr. Laing asked me to come and see his depot, and a batch of coolies he had brought from Jabalpur. I went with him, and was told by him at his depot that he had a Brahmin girl, a minor, and did not know what to do with her. I told him his safety lay in reporting the facts to the Deputy Commissioner which he assured me he would do. I believed him and so made no report myself. About the 3rd June I was at the Railway Station and noticed a batch of coolies leaving by train belonging to Mr. Laing, and from information received understood that this Brahmin girl was among them. I informed the Railway Police and a telegram was sent to Asansol Station to the Railway Police to detain her. A reply was sent that the girl could not be found, and so I concluded that Mr. Laing who had gone with the coolies, had squared the police and so said nothing about the matter till Mr. Forrest, who was then acting as Deputy Commissioner, asked me why I had sent the Telegram. I submitted a written explanation quoting the law under which I acted, and apparently he was satisfied for I heard no more about it.

It must be remembered that Mr. Forrest at this time was Deputy Commissioner and Mr. Boxwell the District Superintendent of Police. On the 13th June I came to know from Mr. Laing himself that he had not reported to the Deputy Commissioner the fact of his having a minor girl in his depot, and what is more, he said to me that his partner by confining and starving this girl had induced her to agree to mate with a male coolie, and that she was about to be sent to Assam. I confess I was very disgusted and angry at hearing this and left Mr. Laing's house, saying I hoped there were not many Englishmen in India who pimped for coolies.

In justice to Mr. Laing it should be noted that, the allegations against him are based only upon the one-sided statements of Mr. Augier. For aught we know to the contrary, Mr. Laing may have his own version of the affair; if so, it ought to be published. The charges are, however, very serious, and they cannot be ignored, specially as they were made in a public court and in a public document. The authorities themselves are bound to take notice of such serious illegalities in the interests of the public. Is it a fact that a minor girl was recruited as a coolie? Is it a fact that she was a Brahmin? Is it a fact that, though it was known that she was a minor and a Brahmin, yet she was kept detained in the depot? Is it a fact, she was mated to a young coolie? The story of Mr. Augier reminds us of the treatment accorded to old Carolina slaves. Here was a Brahmin girl, a minor, enticed away from the lawful custody of her guardians, and eternally disgraced and ruined for ever! If Mr. Augier has told a lie he should be prosecuted for it; but, if he has spoken the truth, the real offenders should be hauled up and put on their trial.

The part played by Mr. Law and Mr. McGuire in this sensational case will be noticed in a future issue.

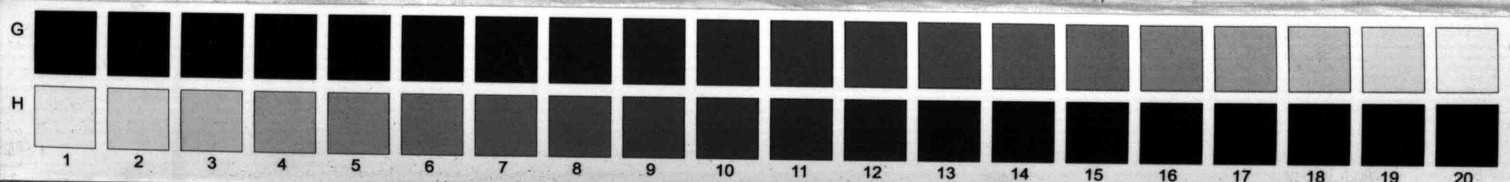
In his Chiswick speech Lord George Hamilton said that, he was not hostile to India; only he was "hostile to any proposals or schemes which directly or indirectly tend to subvert or weaken British rule in India." We have nothing to object to the principle laid down in the above; no sensible man, either Indian or European, will do so. But as put, the sentiment is highly objectionable. The instinct of imperialism has so dimmed the moral perceptions of even men in the highest position, that they do not see that, in the principle laid down above, the claims of truth, justice and morality are utterly ignored. "I cannot do anything which has a tendency to weaken British rule in India," says Lord Hamilton. Now, suppose, Tilak's acquittal would have weakened British rule in India, but Tilak was innocent. What would Lord George Hamilton have done under the circumstances? Under the principle apparently laid down by Lord George Hamilton, his Lordship would have yet had Tilak imprisoned, even if he were innocent. Any privilege granted to the Indians would weaken British rule in India. Would it not? If the Indians become strong or wealthy; if they grow as a nation; indeed, if they improve their condition in any way, they weaken British rule in India. And is it the duty of Lord G. Hamilton to see that the Indians never grow strong? If all Indians were handicapped, British rule would be very much strengthened. If the handcuffs again were removed, British rule would be weakened. If the Indians were reduced to the condition of Carolina slaves, British rule would be very much strengthened. But if the

slaves were again liberated, British rule would be necessarily weakened. From the manner Lord George Hamilton lays down his proposition, it would seem that his Lordship means that, he would keep the Indians under foot for ever, and support no scheme which would improve their condition. We are certain Lord George Hamilton did not mean what he said. What he perhaps means is that he will support no scheme which will weaken the hold of England upon the hearts of the Indians. That must be his meaning, otherwise his doctrine would be a little too horrible. To hold India by brute force is one thing, to hold her by ties of affection and mutual benefit is quite another thing. Indeed, if the latter is the proper method, nay, the only method of maintaining the British hold of the Empire, we must say Lord G. Hamilton has then sinned very often during his long rule. Let no Englishman forget in his enthusiasm about the maintenance of British authority, that the Indians have their interests also.

Capital, the organ of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, advised the Government to pass the Calcutta Municipal Bill at once and thus put an end to the native agitation raised against it. The Hon'ble Mr. Turner, President of the same body, who is in the Select Committee on the Municipal Bill in his speech at the annual meeting of the Chamber, held on the 21st February, also expresses the same devout wish. His remarks on the Municipal Bill will be found elsewhere. Says he:—"I hope it (the Municipal Bill) will pass into law not later than the autumn session of this year." Yes, they of Trade and Commerce in Calcutta, are in a great hurry to see the measure passed. For, the earlier the Bill becomes an Act, the earlier will the European members in the General Committee be able to pocket two gold mohurs for every meeting they attend, at the cost of the rate-payers. Government has, however, this difficulty in acting up to the advice of the Hon'ble Mr. Turner. It may be charged with brute force, or with carrying things at the point of the bayonet, if it passes the Bill against almost universal opposition. We, however, entertain a better opinion of the Government than Mr. Turner seems to do. We think Government will not resort to brute force and thus lower itself in the estimation of the world for the sake of Mr. Turner and a handful of European residents of the town who are only birds of passage and have no abiding interest in the country. In this matter, Government has not only to dispose of an intelligent Indian public, but at least half of England which is represented by the Liberals. No, the use of brute force, which Mr. Turner suggests, is out of the question in a matter like this. As it has a reputation to maintain, Government will have to take its stand upon fairness, justice and sound arguments and not race-partiality, in order to pass the Bill.

MR. TURNER has a kind word for every one connected with the Select Committee. He praises himself, the Hon'ble Mr. Baker, nay, even the two Indian representatives in the Committee. "I supported the Bill with all my power"—says he. It is said, however, that Mr. Turner did much more than that, and it is only modesty that prevented him from saying all. We are told that he supported even some of those portions of the Bill which were opposed by the Chamber, whose Chairman he is! And on certain occasions, it is reported, when this was pointed out to him by some members of the Select Committee, he took it for a good joke and laughed! It can easily be conceived that it requires no small amount of moral courage for one to go against the declared views of his constituents; and Mr. Turner's conduct will no doubt receive due consideration at the hands of Government. Mr. Turner next congratulates the Hon'ble Municipal Secretary "on the able manner in which he has piloted the Bill through Committee." And we doubt not, when the Hon'ble Mr. Baker's opportunity comes, he will also similarly congratulate Mr. Turner "on the able manner" in which he supported the Bill in the Committee. As regards the Indian members in the Committee, it is superfluous to say that he does no service to them by the praise he bestows upon them. Indeed, their justification should have come from other quarters than from the spokesman of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Turner says that they "contested every contestable point." If so, how is it that nearly 600 sections of the Bill have been disposed of in the course of a few weeks? We may tell Mr. Turner that the general impression is that, either the Indian members did not themselves do, or were not allowed to do, their duty properly. If they had "contested every contestable point," it would have required a year, and not a few weeks surely, to get so many hundreds of clauses settled. Like Mr. Turner, the Editor of the *Indian Mirror* is also a member of the Select Committee. This is what he says:—

Legislate in a hurry and repent at leisure. Such will probably be the result of the hurried manner, in which the Select Committee on the Calcutta Municipal Bill in going through its work—may we say, is being dragged on in its work? The members of the Committee have to do work of their own, and yet they are expected to go through the provisions of a vexatious Bill three days in a week for several hours together. At the same time, the Select Committee, which ought to be in touch with public opinion, is not supposed to know and to take any cognisance of the meetings, which the rate-payers have been just weekly holding in Calcutta.



So the Indian colleague of Mr. Turner speaks in a quite different strain of the work of the Select Committee. The Hon'ble Mr. Turner alleges that the Bill has received a most patient hearing at the hands of the Select Committee, but the Hon'ble Babu Narendranath Sen says that it is "being dragged" through the Committee. Whom are we to believe, both being honorable gentlemen? We are further told by the Editor of the *Mirror* that the Select Committee has taken no notice of the protests of the numerous meetings held in the town. This fact ought to be telegraphed to England.

OUR articles on social reform have led some, who have joined the Brahmo community, to contend that the problem, raised by us, has been solved by their community. It is quite true that the Brahmos have, by the other day, got a sufficient accession of strength to be able to form themselves into a community. But their community is yet very small, and they have to suffer infinite times more from the marriage difficulty than any one of the Hindu castes does. Besides, the Hindus have nothing to gain by forsaking the firm ground that they occupy now, for the sake of a slippery one. Brahmoism has this want, socially and spiritually, that it has no Personality to give it the property of cohesion. Brahmoism is bound to remain for ever weak, and split into parties. Because of its want of an "infallible" leader. A nation or a religious community can never be formed without a Personality to gather the discordant elements round him. Buddhists became strong because of the "person" of the Buddha, and not on account of his teachings. And in this manner, Christians and Muslims eventually became so powerful because of Jesus Christ and Mahomed. Eliminate the persons from the religious and social systems of the world and they immediately lose all vitality. The weakness of the Hindus is due to the fact that they have not one Person to follow and obey, for they are divided into various sects, as Vaishnavas, Saktais, Saivas, etc., each having a distinct Person to follow. The Hindus can now become a strong nation if they can get hold of one person to obey implicitly. And why should one who believes in the incarnation of God, give up that comforting and enabling belief for the dry and baseless tenets of the Brahmos? We do not choose to raise a polemical discussion here, but this we believe that the Christian who contends that God Almighty sent His son to take care of men below, has a more comforting belief and a living faith in the mercy and nearness of God, than those who have no faith in such merciful provisions of the Lord. The Brahmos, again, can flourish on the ruins of Hinduism but that we cannot permit. We want construction and not destruction. Indeed, as we said the other day, the followers of Lord Gauranga did the very same thing that the Brahmos are doing now, but without destroying the fabric of the Hindu society and religion.

SAYS THE *PIONEER*.—An effort is being made by certain opponents of the Calcutta Municipal Bill to get up a popular agitation against that measure, but this does not seem to be in any way successful, the native inhabitants of the city showing their usual apathy and indifference in the matter. Says the *Indian Mirror*.—The *Hindoo Patriot* has published one more article on the Calcutta Municipal Bill, in the course of which it bluntly observes: "If the Government is determined for certain reasons, to deprive the native community of any but a nominal share in the Municipal administration of the town, it ought to say so frankly and boldly." So that the last lingering doubt about the attitude of the *Hindoo Patriot* or of the British Indian Association, which it claims to represent, in respect of the Bill, must finally disappear. The entire Indian community may now be said, without the least exaggeration, to be united in opposition to the measure. The Indian newspapers, throughout the country, have shared in that unanimity. Who speaks the truth in the above? One of them is no doubt trying deliberately to mislead the Government. The enlightened European journalist says that the popular agitation against the Bill is a myth, and the idolatrous Hindu says that the opposition to it is universal.

THE *Pioneer* next criticises, in the following terms, a vernacular pamphlet issued by a printer at Buttolta, tens of thousands of copies of which, we are told, have been sold in the town:—We need only refer to a pamphlet, issued a few days ago, which is being hawked through the streets of Calcutta for sale at one pice per copy. On the fly leaf is a wood-cut, showing a group of thirty natives begging for water, which a *dhisi* is doling out from a hydrant, while a Municipal chaprasi stands by apparently taking money as a bribe or tax. Then come a few lines of poetry: "When the new Bill is passed the people will be ruined. It will be difficult to preserve tiled huts; people will suffer from thirst; dead bodies will not be buried without the permission of the authorities. On the other hand, some believe that Calcutta may be another London." There is a little hedging in this last line, unless it is written in a sarcastic vein, but the general purport of the pamphlet shows that the popular mind is to be excited if possible. Thus it is said: "The house which you have built with your hard-earned money will have to be left if the Bill is passed. Do you remember Calcutta of twenty or twenty-five years back: that hell-city Calcutta which the elected Commissioners

have made like unto paradise? The town has so improved that the death-rate has diminished, and the people are living in comfort. The Lieutenant-Governor says that the Municipal Commissioners are worthless; now consider why they are being deprived of their powers which it is proposed to entrust to a few European merchants. Brethren! What do foreign Europeans know of your domestic affairs? Will they understand our miseries and sufferings? The sketch of Calcutta as a paradise is distinctly humorous; not so long ago it was compared in its insanitary state with an African village. The cunning attempt to introduce race animosity by reference to foreigners should be noted and it occurs again where it is said that the proposal to introduce water-trees into houses is done in order that the water saved may be sold to Europeans outside the city. The people it is added, will suffer from a short supply, and will be unable to use tanks and wells, as these will be covered with earth, and will cease to exist. The proposed building regulations are also attacked, in the assertions that no one will be able to build a tiled hut and that the sanitary regulations will ruin the poorer classes who own houses. The old complaint that the bodies of persons dying between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m. will have to be kept until a special order from the Chairman for the funeral is obtained, is repeated: as the writer is a Hindu he points out that the keeping of a dead body through the night, *basi-mara*, is against the Shastras and is punishable in after life. As the Lieutenant-Governor weeks ago promised that the section of the Bill dealing with this particular point should be reconsidered, this attempt to arouse religious feeling is of a piece with the rest of this unscrupulous production. Fortunately, as we have said, the native population of Calcutta do not seem to take much interest in the new Municipal Bill, but it is as well that the public generally should know the lines on which the agitation is being conducted. A Select Committee of the Bengal Legislative Council is hard at work on the measure, and when the report is presented we shall be able to judge how far reform will go.

First of all a few words about this pamphlet. It is only a reprint, with a few additions here and there, of a similar publication which was issued a few months ago and about which we had no knowledge. Some three or four weeks ago, the author came to us with a copy and asked us to see if there was anything wrong in it. Similarly he took the pamphlet to some other people. This is all the connection we have with it. But we were surprised to hear, three or four days ago, that, at a corner of one of the pages of the pamphlet, were printed in small types, the following words: "This pamphlet is published by the Editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*." The author, who is a shrewd book-seller, no doubt, thought that by this trick his pamphlet would get some importance. An intimation was, however, sent to him, pointing out his unscrupulous conduct, and he promised to issue another pamphlet, stating that we had nothing to do with the publication and making ample apology to us for his unjustifiable behaviour. We intended to ignore the matter altogether, but as the *Pioneer* has taken pains not only to unearth this miserable vernacular pamphlet, which is distinguished neither by any literary merit nor any brilliant thought, but devotes a column to its criticism, we think it due to us to state the real facts of the case. We have nothing to say for or against the pamphlet. We think it has fairly stated the scope and objects of the Bill, though there may be exaggerations here and there, which are inseparable from publications of this kind. We must say, however, that we have been very much amused by the concluding remarks of the *Pioneer*. "Fortunately," says our contemporary, "the native population of Calcutta do not seem to take much interest in the new Municipal Bill." Is it so? Why is then that wretched print, the rage of the town, so much so, indeed, that the Police had to take notice of it, and the *Pioneer* itself, was also moved to do the same.

THE Hon'ble Mr. Turner says that the Indian members of the Select Committee "contested every contestable" point in the Municipal Bill. It is something, that Mr. Turner admits, there are some contestable points in the Municipal Bill. There is, such a thing as "obstructiveness". The Irish Members had to resort to it, and they were abused. But what could a hopeless minority do, when a packed majority would pour molten lead down their throats? Obstructiveness is not, however, possible in India. First, they do things here with closed doors. We expected some fine exhibitions, and, therefore, prayed for the privilege of the presence of a reporter at the meetings of the Select Committee. But the members shrank from the idea of their doings being given publicity to, and they rejected the prayer. They knew themselves very well, and they knew too that in order to carry their points, they would be under the necessity of pulling the ears of the "native members" if they opposed any untenable section. They knew also that they would be required to "bully and use all the arts that brute strength gives to silence the minority. They knew all that, and, therefore, dreaded publicity. Now it is all plain sailing. A native member talks and the official majority do not listen. The native member gives up in despair, and they at once take up the next section. If the native member resents this sort of summary procedure, they smile sweetly and take up the next section. Sometimes they carry matters with a high hand, and then the native members feel like school boys before their merciless teachers. Native members ought to have resigned if they

found that they were getting no fair play. They might at least have appealed to Sir J. Woodburn for protection. But they had not the necessary courage or public-spirit to be able to do this; and now that the work is all but complete, they are likely to come before the public with the astounding intelligence that they had no hand in the settling of the six hundred and seventy sections in the Bill.

THE *Champion* rebukes one Rev. Deunis Osborne who utilised the hall of the Y. M. C. A. to talk of the Indian Mutiny and abuse the people of this country. Asks the *Champion*, "Is the address a fit and proper one to be delivered in an Indian city," in the hall of the Christian Association and before young Christians? "The Rev. D. Osborne, we suppose," says the *Champion*, "came out to India to preach Christianity and not to stir up bad feelings." Before Dr. Weldon meddles with the heathens of India, his Lordship should first try with the Christians in India; and before his Lordship interferes with laymen he must first improve the Christianity of the Missionaries.

REFERRING to the statement of Lord George Hamilton that he will support no scheme which has for its effect the weakening of British rule in India, we can remind his Lordship that the self-same question was raised at the beginning of British rule in this country. The question was then raised that the Indians should never be educated in western literature and science, as such a policy would weaken British rule in Hindustan. Lord Macaulay settled the question by his celebrated Minute. Indeed, he laid down the principle that the only justification for the British occupation of India consisted in the English people conferring upon the children of the soil the blessings which they themselves enjoyed. Take also the question of religion. Lord George Hamilton himself supported the scheme of Bishop Weldon to give the Lord Bishop a free hand in missionary work. If the new Lord Bishop succeeds in Christianizing India, the inevitable result would be that British rule would be considerably weakened. There are two ways of securing a firm grip of India—one by emasculating Indians and the other by making British rule an inestimable blessing to the people. The latter method is not only a better one and is approved of by the Father of all nations, but is also one which the British people as a nation would recommend. Ask any Britisher and he will tell you that if the maintenance of British rule is a high object with him, his higher object is to make it a blessing to the people. This even the *Times* will admit. Lord George Hamilton is at his place not to stop the expression of discontent by Gaggling Acts, but to remove the causes which lead to such discontent.

IF Mr. Ross, manager of the Mohunpur Tea Garden, has his version to explain, through the columns of the *Englishman*, how two Mahomedans came to be shot by him, the other side has also a version of its own—altogether a different one. Mr. Ross says that he was struck a blow on the arm, the result being that his revolver went off killing one man and wounding another at the same time. Here is the story of the other side. Sometime ago some Mussalmans had cut some bamboos on a piece of land about the proprietorship of which there was a dispute between them and the manager. On this, we are told, Mr. Ross came to the scene, armed with a revolver and attended by some followers. He then arrested two of the so-called intruders, upon which the villagers protested. As the European paid no heed to their representations, an attempt was made by the villagers to rescue the prisoners, and Mr. Ross fired. One Osman Ali was shot in the chest and died immediately. Mr. Ross, it is said, again fired wounding "another villager."

THAT sensational case, known as the Lalbagh Municipal case, after having dragged its slow length for months, has at last come to a close, resulting in the acquittal of the second accused, Dr. Raj Kumar Ghose. It is one of a series of cases, instituted at the instance of the present vigorous Magistrate of Berhampore, which have created general consternation in the district. Our correspondent's letter headed "Criminal Administration in Berhampore," dated Nov. 8, referred to this case in these words:—"Only recently a medical practitioner of the city of Murshidabad, who had officiated for the Assistant Surgeon in charge of the local hospital, and the Head Clerk of the Local Municipality have been charged with the embezzlement of a sum of Rs. 45. The Head Clerk was arrested and a warrant having been issued against the doctor, he appeared before the Magistrate. Both of them are now on bail."

The case was tried by Babu Chand Charan Chatterjee, Deputy Magistrate. He acquitted the Head Clerk and convicted the Doctor, sentencing him to one year's rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 200. An appeal was preferred to the Sessions Judge, with the result that the doctor has been acquitted. We are told that the Sessions Judge was so disgusted with prosecution that he characterised it as "ill-advised." Two innocent gentlemen have thus escaped the clutches of the law with a whole skin. But should the matter drop here? Some one must be held responsible for the trouble and worry—not to speak of the fearful loss of money—

to which they were subjected through no fault of their own. We trust the aggrieved parties will make a representation to the Bengal Government on the subject.

SOME cases of plague are said to have occurred in Calcutta; but we did not choose to give publicity to the report for fear of creating a panic. The *Englishman* has, however, given publicity to the occurrence of a few cases. It is extremely difficult to ascertain whether the reported cases were really plague or not, for all of them did not occur in the same quarter. This shows that, either the cases are not real plague, or that the alleged plague cases are not infectious or contagious at all. Indian medical men of the city are of opinion that Calcutta has never been free from this sort of plague in its endemic form.

Since then the Government has issued a Resolution, dated, Calcutta, 24th February, re-imposing the restrictions which were withdrawn in October last, from which we make the following extract:—

6. The Lieutenant-Governor is therefore of opinion that measures must be taken to apply in the case of the poorer classes also the system which has so far worked well in respect of classes higher in the social scale. In future no person shall be removed to a public hospital under Rule 46 of Plague Regulation No. 9, without his consent, provided that suitable arrangements are made for the treatment of the case at home. If there is any ward, caste, or family hospital for admission to which he is eligible, and to which he is willing to go, he may be moved thither. If there is no such hospital available, an endeavour should be made to explain to the patient or his friends the advantages which he would obtain in a public hospital in respect of treatment, attendance, and surroundings. But if, notwithstanding this, he still prefers to be treated at his own home, arrangements shall be made to adapt the latter for the purposes of a private isolation hospital. The other inmates, except such as are in attendance on the patient, should be induced to remove elsewhere. Medicines and medical attendance should be provided free of cost, and on the recovery of the patient (or after his death, if the case should terminate fatally) the premises should be either thoroughly disinfected, or, if necessary, demolished, compensation being paid to the owner. All clothing or bedding which is likely to have become contaminated should also be at once disinfected in the Equifex disinfectant or destroyed on payment of compensation. If any structural or internal alterations in the house or hut appear necessary in order to render it suitable for its purpose, these shall be carried out by the Chairman and the Health Officer at the public expense.

7. By these measures, the Lieutenant-Governor hopes to secure the active co-operation of the public in the reporting of cases promptly as they occur. There is at present no serious ground for alarm. Such cases as have occurred are undoubtedly sporadic. The season of greatest danger is nearly passed. Much has been done during the past two years to improve the conservancy of the town, and to introduce a higher standard of cleanliness. The municipal establishments have been strengthened, and a strong staff of competent medical and sanitary officers is at hand. The course which the disease has so far taken in Calcutta is such as to warrant the hope that the town may yet escape a serious outbreak. And the Lieutenant-Governor is confident that all classes of the community will unite with the authorities in their efforts to ward it off.

THE London correspondent of the *Pioneer* telegraphs to that paper, under date 22nd instant:—

A debate is impending in the House of Commons regarding the alleged excesses at Omdurman, at which Mr. John Morley is expected to speak. The Hon. Mr. Brodrick admitted on Monday that the Sirdar allowed the Mahdi's remains to be exhumed, mutilated, and thrown into the Nile. Mr. Redmond notified that he would, therefore, bitterly oppose the grant to General Kitchener. The Press is indignant at the meanness of the War Office in refusing the hospital-ship demanded in June, through General Grenfell, by the medical officers attached to the expedition. Colonel Lonsdale also exposes the affair in a letter to the *Times*.

Sirdar Kitchener was the idol of the English nation only a few days ago, and even the *Times* has now opened its columns to blackguard his acts in the Soudan expedition.

HER Excellency Lady Curzon has been pleased to accept the office of Patroness of the Bengal Branch of the National Indian Association. His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor is president of this Branch which has been recently revived, and Mrs. Jenkins and Mrs. P. L. Roy are the honorary Secretaries. The object of the association, of which Miss E. A. Manning is the General Secretary, are mainly two—to promote social intercourse between the different communities in India, and to encourage education especially among girls. Its headquarters are in London. The Right Hon'ble Lord Hobhouse K. C. S. I., is president, and the names of many distinguished Anglo-Indians are to be found on the Central Committee. Under such distinguished auspices, we hope the Bengal Branch will have a successful career. It certainly could not have more deserving objects in view.

A SHOCKING story of four Indians being seriously "razored" by Private Patrick Joyce of the Buffs (E. Kent Regiment) comes from Kamptee (Central Provinces). With two comrades Joyce came into collision with some Indians, but nothing serious happened. Patrick Joyce then went to his quarters in the barracks and sallied out, armed with a razor. He took up his stand on a frequented path-way, and would it be believed, he cut at every "native" who came within reach and in this way four "natives" were seriously injured. The man was arrested after some trouble and is now in custody. He will shortly be handed over to the Civil authorities to be tried for causing grievous hurt alluded to above.

MR. FISCHER, District Magistrate of Burdwan, is an ardent lover of the vegetable kingdom, and has signalled his advent in the town by planting rows of trees on public roads. This trait in his character, unmistakably proves that Mr. Fischer possesses a good heart. But here is an instance to show how he lately allowed his sentiment in this direction to get the better of discretion and reason, causing immense mischief to lots of people. While on tour in the moffussil, he found some village roads overshadowed by mango trees, their branches hiding the sun in some places. At this sight, Mr. Fischer was fired with the idea of lopping the branches of these trees. No sooner did the idea originate in his mind than he set

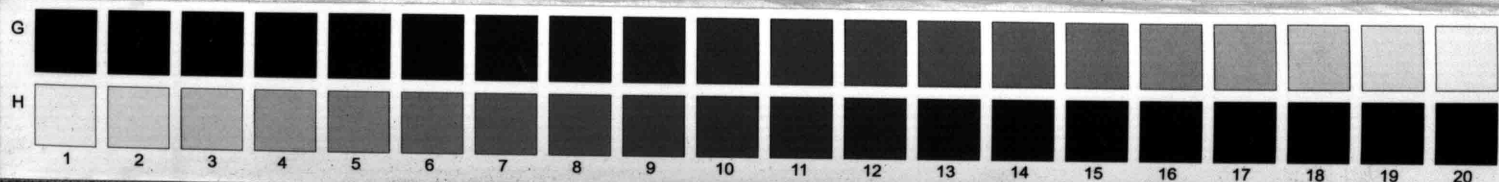
FROM a Government Report, it appears that experiments with long-stapled cotton seed, from America and Egypt, were made during the last two years on the experimental Farms at Poona and Surat, both in the winter and rainy seasons. The result has proved very disappointing. Seedlings came up strong and healthy, but afterwards they withered. Referring to this Mr. Molison, Deputy Director of Agriculture in the Bombay Presidency, observes:—"I believe it has been proved years ago that exotic varieties of cotton are unsuited for the conditions of Indian agriculture and perhaps it might be safe to go further and say that an indigenous variety found suitable in one district might prove unsuitable for another, and that the only hope of improvement lies in taking varieties as we find them cultivated and try to improve them by selection of seed continued from year to year." But if the trial has failed in the Bombay Presidency, that is no reason why the same result would be obtained in Bengal. At least, considering the valuable character of the commodity, the long-stapled cotton is worth the trouble and expense of a fair trial on Bengal soil.

THE death is announced of the Raja of Cannanore, better known as Sultan Ali. Outside Cannanore it is perhaps not known that the deceased nobleman has died of grief—"a dupe of to-morrow" as the poet said. The Raja was also the owner of the Laccadives and of this territorial possession, he is alleged to have been dispossessed by the Madras Government long ago. What is, however, still more strange in this connection is that though the Secretary of State for India had ordered the restoration of the Laccadives to their rightful owner two years back, the Madras Government systematically avoided the question and the restoration remained all the while in abeyance. The Raja's was a hard case, no doubt. But now he is no more, he will no longer come to tease the Local Government over this vexed question.

WE have said more than once that if plague is an evil, cholera or malarial fever is a greater evil, for if the former claims thousands of victims every year, the latter claims lacs. Dr. Blaney, in his evidence before the Plague Commission, said the same thing and adduced facts and figures to establish his point. He calculated that on an average a Plague visitation may come round to India once in one century and last for seven years, and cause a total mortality of 700,000 in that whole period. But on the other hand, during the same period the mortality from cholera and fevers may go generally up to 35,000,000. He then goes on to say that cholera and fevers are, to a certain extent, preventable diseases and therefore if all the money that has been spent in India or will yet be spent on uncertain and unsatisfactory repressive Plague measures, been used for the execution of well planned and well executed schemes of permanent sanitary reforms, the country at the of the Plague would have had something real and tangible to shew for the great outlet which has now gone and is still going on a wasteful expenditure. Dr. Blaney in passing gives one or two instances of the objectionable manner in which, without any heed being paid to the convenience or sentiments of the people, some kinds of plague measures were enforced: thus he had seen, he said, eleven bodies removed in a closed ambulance to a public hospital, nine of which were found to be dead and the remaining two moribund or barely alive. He also deposed to have seen a woman compulsorily detained in a Plague hospital for upwards of a month with a very small unhealed ulcer on the great toe.

THE *Englishman* has the following:—"News of a distressing occurrence reaches us from Silchar. It appears that for some time past there has been a dispute as to the exact boundaries of the Mohanpur Tea garden belonging to the Central Cachar Tea Company and the neighbouring villagers have been making a practice of stealing bamboos from land which the garden claims. On the morning of the 7th instant, Mr. Ross, who is in charge of the garden, went out with four coolies to see if he could find the thieves. He caught two villagers in the very act, and handed them over to his men with a view to subsequently charging them at the police station. Presently, however, some fifty or sixty Bengalis came out of the village and rescued the prisoners severely beating Mr. Ross's coolies. They then turned on Mr. Ross himself. He attempted to reason with them, but they refused to listen, and one man rushed at him with a dao. Mr. Ross parried the blow and wrested the weapon from his holder. The villagers still showing a threatening front, Mr. Ross was obliged to draw and point his revolver. This action at first cowed the assailants, but presently they made an ugly rush and the leading man struck Mr. Ross a blow on the arm with a bamboo. This caused the revolver to go off and the bullet unfortunately killed one man and wounded another. The villagers retired, and subsequently laid a complaint at the police station. Mr. Ross immediately on his return to his bungalow wrote to the Sub-divisional Officer telling him the facts and asking for an enquiry. The police have now framed charges both against Mr. Ross and the villagers." Of course, the above is one version of the sad occurrence. According to the other, the European manager deliberately shot, one after another, two men who were cutting bamboos. The case will be taken up for hearing on Monday, the 27th instant. Mr. Ross has been enlarged on bail for Rs. 2,000.

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LEGISLATIVE.—Mr. Finucane has been appointed a member of the Bengal Legislative Council.

THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL.—Sir Charles Paul, Advocate-General, Bengal, is going to England on leave for the hot weather.

A RUMOUR.—Rumour has been very busy with the name of a certain able member of the Calcutta Bench as a likely successor to Sir Louis Kershaw.

PROVINCIAL SERVICE EXAMINATION.—The examination of candidates for admission to the Provincial Executive Service will be held at the Senate House on the 4th April and three following days.

GOLD RESERVE.—The value of the reserve in gold held by the Government of India on the 15th instant was Rs. 89,01,501. Of this sum Rs. 54,71,430 was at Bombay.

EARTHQUAKE.—A correspondent writes us to say that at 12 P. M. on the 19th instant there was felt at Karimganj, Sylhet, a very smart shock of earthquake, the like of which, we are told, had not been experienced since the terrible earthquake of June, 1897.

B. C. RY. SURVEY.—The Government of India have sanctioned the Bengal Central Railway Company carrying out a survey for Messrs. Barry and Co., Calcutta, of the proposed railway from Chandipur to Taki, with a branch to Baduria, 38 miles.

DEPARTURE.—The officer lately deputed by the King of Siam to proceed to India and receive the Buddhist relics which were lately offered on certain conditions to that monarch by the Government of India left Calcutta on Tuesday evening. The relics were duly handed over to him by the Commissioner of Gorakhpur, and he also takes with him a number of articles discovered at the same time.

THE HIGH COURT.—There is a rumour to the effect that it is not quite beyond the range of possibilities that Mr. Justice Jenkins will take Sir Louis Kershaw's place as Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court. Others mention the name of Sir Griffith Evans in this connection.

CALCUTTA CORPORATION.—Though the minimum rate for the 4½ per cent. Loan of 1898-99 for Rs. 4,00,000 was fixed at par, the total tenders received upto 2 o'clock P. M. on the 17th instant aggregated Rs. 11,36,300. Tenders at 104 to 106 amounting to Rs. 12,000 were accepted in full and also Rs. 3,38,000 out of a tender for Rs. 4,00,000 at 103-3. The average rate accepted was 103-3-8.

MR. BERTRAM.—Mr. Charles Bertram, the renowned Court Conjuror, has arrived in Calcutta. He gives his first performance at the Opera House to-morrow, when, it is to be hoped, there will be a full house to give him that hearty and substantial welcome which his fame entitles him to. His stay here will be short; and hence those who may like to witness his wonderful tricks should lose no time.

A DIVORCE SUIT.—At the High Court on Wednesday, before Mr. Justice Sale, Babu Jatindra Nath Mukerji applied on behalf of A. S. Atkinson for leave to file a petition for dissolution of marriage against his wife E. M. S. Atkinson on the ground of adultery with one W. F. R. Ingles. The petition also prayed for damages against the co-respondent, Rs. 10,000. The petition was admitted and written statement ordered.

BENGAL PROVINCIAL RAILWAY.—The approximate earnings of this Railway for the week ending 18th February 1899 were: Coaching Rs. 956; Goods Rs. 88; Miscellaneous Re. 1, Total Rs. 1045 or Rs. 33 per open mile. In the corresponding week of the previous year the total earnings were Rs. 1447 or Rs. 45 per open mile. Total for 7 weeks from 1st January 1899, Rs. 6818 as compared with Rs. 9711 total for corresponding 6 weeks of 1898.

A NEW COAL TERMINUS.—A correspondent announces to the Pioneer that in all probability the export trade in coal will shortly be transferred to Port Canning—obviously a very important piece of news, of which, curiously enough, there has so far been no hint in the Calcutta papers. The idea of transferring a portion of the export trade to the Muthah is, of course, not new; it has been discussed off and on for many years, a line of railway was run years ago from Sealadah to Port Canning, jetties were built and a tramway laid but there the project has hitherto stuck. Now, however, the rapid expansion of the coal traffic has brought it again to the front, and our correspondent informs us that a party of which the Public Works Member of Council was one, recently visited Port Canning and came to the conclusion that the Port, so far as could be seen on a preliminary examination is well adapted for the disposal of coal exports. The result is that a survey of the Muthah River will be undertaken afresh. The importance of the traffic involved may be judged from the fact that the total exports of coal rose from 16,000 tons in 1892-93 to 212,855 tons in 1897-98, and are rapidly increasing.

REVERSION.—Mr. A. G. Chakravarty, I. C. S., Finance Department, shortly reverts to the Judicial Department in Bengal.

NEW LAUNCHES.—The construction at Kidderpore Dockyard of four new steam launches for the Government of Burma has been sanctioned.

ACCIDENT IN A COURT.—On Thursday night a beam of the Alipore District Magistrate's English office, which had undergone thorough repairs very recently, suddenly gave way crushing tables chairs and other furniture.

CROP AND WEATHER.—Here is a summary of the crop and weather report for Bengal during the week ending 20th instant. Some slight rain fell during the week in almost every district of the Province, except the districts of the Orissa Division. The rain was accompanied by hail in places in Bihar, but not much damage to the crops is reported. The general prospects of the crops continue favourable. The *rabi* crops are maturing, and poppy is coming into flower. Sugarcane-pressing is approaching completion. Spring rice is still being transplanted. Lands are being ploughed for autumn rice and jute. Fodder-supply is everywhere sufficient, and cattle-disease is reported from a few districts only. The price of common rice continues almost stationary.A DACOITY.—At about 3 A.M., on Sunday, the 19th instant, a daring dacoity was committed at the house of Babu Mati Lal Ghose, at Nimta, Subdivision Barasat. A gang of ten or twelve men armed with *lathis*, with lighted torches in their hands, broke into the house, maltreated the inmates and carried away property valued at Rs. 150. The owner and his younger brother, Babu Mahendra Lal Ghose, could not resist the attack nor could devise any plan to effect the arrest of the gang. They sent information to the police officer in charge of Dum-Dum Thana when day dawned. The Sub-Inspector came to the spot to investigate the matter but to no effect. Babu A. L. Mukerji, Subdivisional Officer of Barasat, on hearing the report, hurried to the spot to make a local inquiry on the same day and has since been able to arrest four men who have been sent up for trial.

COUNT TURIN'S BAG.—The bag at the shooting party given by Mr. Nolan to H. R. H. the Count of Turin consisted of a buffalo, a bear and three leopards, with the usual proportion of partridge, jungle fowl, hare and so forth. The only animal seen that was not brought to the pad was a man-eating tiger: it is always the prize that escapes. It was wounded by H. R. H. on the first day of the shoot, and much time was afterwards lost in vain attempts to find it again. Its habits have become eccentric, it will not stay by its kill, and hardly eats a morsel before it hurries off to some unknown retreat. The buffalo and one leopard were got on the day of the arrival and that of the departure of the royal party, who had not a chance at these animals. The Count of Turin killed a very large leopard, Prince Teano another leopard, and Count Carpenetto the bear.

FIRE IN BOW BAZAR STREET.—On Thursday evening, at about 7-30, an alarming fire broke out in a furniture store in Bow Bazar street. On the prompt arrival of the Fire Brigade under Chief Engineer, Mr. Clare, who was assisted by Messrs. Morgan and Thomson, it was ascertained that the fire had taken a very firm hold of the whole of the furniture, together with a stock of paints, varnishes, spirits of wine, and other inflammable substances used in a furniture warehouse. The several hoses of the Fire Engine were brought into play from various directions, and after some hard work for upwards of an hour the fire showed signs of abatement. The Brigade was successful in preventing the spread of the flames to the adjoining premises, which were in the occupation of Mr. Gasper and his family, and by 10-45 P.M. had extinguished the fire, though not before the entire stock of furniture had been destroyed, to say nothing of the damage done to the building itself which was completely gutted. It may be mentioned that the police with great forethought rescued Mr. Gasper's children from their house, which at one time was seriously threatened by the fire. Mr. Paget, Deputy Commissioner of Police, and Superintendent Millard were present on the scene of the fire and assisted in directing the operations of the Brigade. At about 12-30 the same night, a fresh outbreak was reported in the same house, owing to the smouldering fire being fanned by a breeze. The Fire Brigade returned to the scene of their recent labours and extinguished the flames. The damage to furniture is roughly estimated at Rs. 40,000 to Rs. 50,000. The cause of the fire is not yet known.

THE list of University Fellows appointed by the Bombay Government this year contains the names of six Indians and only three Europeans. The local Government may note.

THE design prepared by Bhai Ram Singh, Principal of the Lahore School of Art, for the Samadhi to be erected in the Kaisari Bagh, Amritsar, as a memorial of the gallant and devoted defence of the Fort at Saragarhi by a detachment of the 36th Sikhs has been accepted by the military authorities, and the erection of this handsome cenotaph will probably soon be proceeded with.

THE final report on the Cotton Crop for 1898-1899 estimates the yield in Bengal at 74 per cent. of a normal crop. In Bombay and Sind the crop is estimated at 1,075,825 bales, or 18 per cent. over the average of last five years while the late crop is likely to yield 887,000 bales, or 21 per cent. more than last year. In Madras the crop is calculated at 124,735 bales, or 34 per cent. below the average, and in the Nizam's Dominions at 132,000 bales, or 47 per cent. under the average.

THE Times of India correspondent wires from Muscat that the Sultan of Muscat has revoked the grant of a coaling station to the French under threat of the bombardment of the forts by Admiral Douglas, commanding the East Indian Squadron, who is now in Muscat. There are three warships now in that port, the Eclipse, Sphinx and Redbreast. The Sultan has posted a proclamation to the foregoing effect, and has proclaimed the same in open Darbar. The French Consul has protested, but everything is quiet in Muscat, and the proclamation has been well received by the natives.

TRIAL OF BALKRISHNA CHAPEKAR.

POONA, FEB. 23.

THE case against Balkrishna Chapekar charged with murdering Lieutenant Ayerst, commenced to-day before the City Magistrate, Mr. Nicholson, Government Prosecutor, appeared for Crown, Messrs. Rele and Sohoni, pleaders, watching the case for Wasudeo and Ranade. On being brought in, Balkrishna appeared to be greatly affected at the sight of his brother and attempted to put his arm round him. Mr. Nicholson in opening said the prisoners charged with the murder and abetment of the murders of Mr. Rand and Lieutenant Ayerst under section 136. Bhai Naia, coachman of Mr. Rand, said he remembered the jubilee night. Reports were heard behind the carriage one following the other. When he pulled up the gharry a Saheb came up and spoke to his Saheb, but received no answer. He then took a lamp from the carriage to show the Saheb who told him to drive straight to the Sassoon Hospital. Witness identified Balkrishna and said he saw him near the Municipal Office, where the Saheb often went, at the time of report and Wasudeo dressed in white.

Gopalsingh, Police Inspector, said he made a search on the Ganeshkhind Road the next morning. Mr. Rand's and Lieutenant Ayerst's coachmen were there, and pointed out the spot where the tragedy occurred. In the vicinity of a yellow bungalow, he found two swords.

Vmayek Apte said he had known Wasudeo and Balkrishna for ten years and Ranade for five years. Prisoners No. 1 and 3 and Damodher were in Poona at the time of murders, and went away to Bombay the following day. He saw Damodher and Wasudeo after that and Balkrishna after Gunpati.

Lieutenant Forbes, Sergeant, 14th Bombay Infantry, said he knew Lieutenant Ayerst went to the reception at Government House with Lieut. Owen Lewis and left between eleven and twelve. A carriage passed near them in which a woman was standing calling out for help. The lady said something had happened to her husband. The lady was Mrs. Ayerst. Lieutenant Ayerst was lying back bleeding and quite dead.

Mrs. Ayerst was covered with blood, he suggested to Lieut. Lewis to drive Mrs. Ayerst straight home. He took the body to the hospital handed it to the house surgeon. He noticed a bullock cart standing near Ganeshkhind gate, and saw Mr. Rand had been shot in the back. Accused asked no question.

Govind Ramchandra Londe, the maternal uncle of Balkrishna, remembered the jubilee festivities. At that time he came from Nasik and saw an axe in their house. It was in Balkrishna's room. He spoke to him about it and he said it was kept for pig-hunting. Witness had come to Bombay and returned on the 29th. Wasudeo came to live with him next day, a couple of days after he told him was going to kill Ramjee and the Dravids. On the 3rd again he told him (Wasudeo) he had killed Mr. Rand and Lieutenant Ayerst. He followed Mr. Rand and Lieutenant Ayerst, Damodher and Balkrishna returned by way of Chaturseji and Wasudeo and Ranade by Zakdipool. After three months of the murders, Balkrishna came to stay, but one day he went away and never saw him again. Nikant Shankar Dravid, the youngest of the Dravids, said that he knew Chapekar and Ranade for three years. He knew of the Gymnastic Club. There were swords and other weapons. Arms were kept in the ground of Damodher's room. Charles Fleming, Police Inspector, gave evidence as to finding pellets. John Stevenson of the Bombay Police gave evidence as to seeing Balkrishna at St. Mary's Church, and the case was adjourned until to-morrow.—Englishman.

POONA, FEB. 24.

The case against Balkrishna, Wasudeo and Ranade was continued to-day. Ramjee Pandu, chief constable, said that on the 30th of September he went to Londe's house compound for the purpose of getting some information from Damodhar with reference to weapons that had been thrown in a well. He found a number of weapons, swords, swordsticks, Martini rifles, bayonet, axe and dagger. The rifles, after the trial of Damodhar were given back to the 14th Bombay Infantry. He also went to Damodhar's house and found his photograph, dressed as a cavalry squire, also a biography, an axe and a couple of gun barrels. Later on he went to Kashinath's house, where he found five drafts and a letter to the commander-in-chief. He did not know at that time where Balkrishna and Wasudeo were, but thought they knew in Bombay. A notification regarding missing men was sent to various places, and in July 1898, he first heard of Wasudeo, and on the 16th he made a statement. On the 24th of December he got authentic information regarding Balkrishna and went to Erandone hill. Balkrishna made a statement on the 4th of February. Bhondu Narayan, a Brahmin said he knew Chapekar's family, and after the 24th of June they occupied Damodhar's room.

Shak Ebrahim postman, gave evidence that two Brahmins met him and were enquiring about Mr. Rand as to where he was staying. He told them in the club. Miss Edith Dosta, school girl, in St. Mary's school said she remembered the 22nd of June. The day before she went to a picnic near Ganeshkhind. There was a canal and some girls were paddling in the water. Two Brahmins came, and one man spoke in broken English. Witness here identified Balkrishna as the same man. She also saw him at Hyderabad during Christmas at Stephen's Bungalow and recognised him at once. After taking some other evidences the case was adjourned till Monday next. The case against Wasudeo Ranade and Sathe will be heard at the Sessions the 2nd of March next.

RAJA SIR AMAR SINGH, accompanied by Mr. Nethersole, the Kashmir State Engineer, visits Calcutta to inform the Viceroy of the plans regarding the railway to Kashmir. It is understood that an expert Engineer from England will be appointed to carry out the work. It is estimated that the railway will cost three crores of rupees, and will be finished in a couple of years. The Maharaja at present is engaged in reviewing the State Departments in order to collect funds for this work.

The financial sensation of the moment, writes the Pioneer's London Correspondent, is the absconding Chairman and Managing Director of the Millwall Dock Company. Eight other officials of the Company are also implicated. The bank balance is overdrawn to the extent of forty thousand pounds.

Telegrams.

(FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.)

LONDON, FEB. 21.
The House of Commons has adopted the Address in reply to the Queen's Speech without a division.LONDON, FEB. 21.
Lord George Hamilton, replying to questions by Sir Henry Fowler, said that a large part of the Welby report was now in print but he was unable to state when the full report would be submitted to the Commission. Sir H. Fowler complained that the delay in publishing the report seriously hampered the Currency Commission.LONDON, FEB. 21.
Mr. G. Wyndham, in reply to a question in the House of Commons, said that the total cost of the Sudan expedition to the Imperial revenues was £215,000, which amount appears as a repayment by Egypt in the supplementary estimate.LONDON, FEB. 21.
A message from President Loubet to the Senate and Chamber of Deputies urges the necessity for toleration, and concord and respect for Government, the Chambers, the Magistracy, and the Army.LONDON, FEB. 21.
Mr. Douglas, the Liberal candidate, has been elected for North-West Lanarkshire by 5,723 votes against 5,364 polled by Mr. Whitelaw, the Unionist candidate.LONDON, FEB. 22.
The Khalifa is still in Kordofan, but has started moving northwards with a considerable force and is raiding the local Arabs. His plans are not known, but Generals Hunter and Macdonald and other officers have been recalled to Omdurman to prepare for emergencies.LONDON, FEB. 22.
Mr. Justice Romer succeeds the late Mr. Justice Chitty as Judge of the Court of Appeal and Mr. Crozens-Hardy, member for Norfolk N., is appointed to the Judgeship in succession to Mr. Justice Romer.LONDON, FEB. 22.
Italy has decided to form a Naval Division for China; and will increase the number of her consuls there.LONDON, FEB. 23.
The funeral of the late President Faure today in Paris was an impressive ceremony, and was orderly throughout. President Loubet met with an excellent reception.A demonstration was made in the evening outside the office of the *Libre Parole*, which resulted in a row and led to the arrest of Deputy Millevoye, and others.LONDON, FEB. 23.
In the House of Commons, to-day, Mr. Brodick stated that the Chinese version of the collision with Russian troops at Talienwa was to the effect that a deputation of Chinese peasants asked for the reduction of the lanet tax, when the Cossacks fired upon the crowd.LONDON, FEB. 23.
Replying to a question in the House of Commons, Lord George Hamilton confirmed the news of the cancelling of the Musca concession to France, and said that, apart from the Treaty of 1862, Oman was under special obligation to Great Britain respecting the alienation of territory. The Imperial Government, his lordship added, had been throughout this question in close communication with the Indian Government.LONDON, FEB. 23.
Mr. Balfour has introduced a Bill in the House of Commons for dividing London into areas for purposes of local Government. The City is not touched under the new scheme.LONDON, FEB. 24.
Mr. Chamberlain and Mr. Herbert, members of the House of Commons, were arrested yesterday evening. The former stopped General Roget whilst riding home from the funeral of the late President Faure, and summoned him in a loud voice to march to the Elysee.LONDON, FEB. 24.
Numerous questions having been asked in the House of Commons as to the disposal of the Mahdi's remains, Mr. Brodick replied that he has asked for a full cable report on the subject.LONDON, FEB. 24.
The Canadian papers bitterly resent the American attitude in the recent negotiations, and demand Traff repeals.LONDON, FEB. 24.
The Coursing Match for the Waterloo Cup resulted in Blackbury beating Lapa.

DOCTOR AND PATIENT.

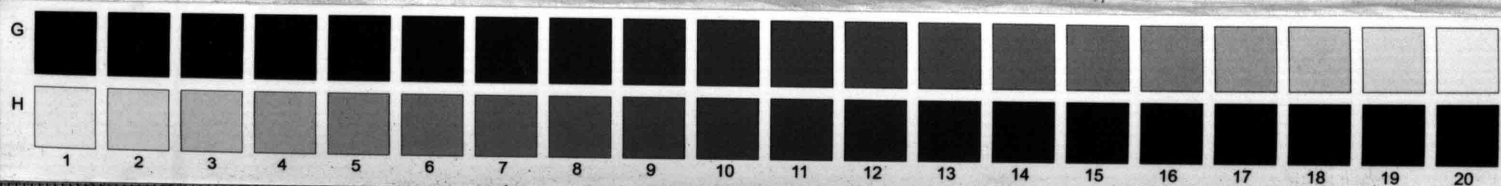
A GERMAN medical paper of standing reports the curious case of a Dresden physician, who had received a lady into his private clinic suffering from a painful internal malady. A small operation appeared to be necessary, and this the lady agreed to. When, however, the patient was under chloroform, and the physician had commenced the operation, he discovered that matters were much worse than he had expected, and that in order to save the lady's life it was necessary to cut away the whole of an internal organ. For some time after the operation, which was a complete success, the lady was extremely grateful, but when she received the bill she altered her mind, and discovered that the whole operation had been unnecessary, and that she had a claim against the doctor for inflicting bodily injury. The physician thereupon sued for his fees, amounting to £27 10s. The Supreme Provincial Court at Dresden has now given the following verdict:

In spite of the fact that the operation probably considerably lengthened the patient's life, it must be considered as an "intentional and illegal bodily injury," because it was not carried out on instructions from the patient. The defendant had been commissioned to carry out a small operation, but the one he made was a great one, and might have been attended with danger to life. Defendant's claim is, therefore, dismissed.

As a result of this judgment criminal proceedings have been entered against the physician by the Public Prosecutor.

SIR SALTER PYNE, who, for sometime approximating twelve years, occupied the position of practically principal adviser to the Amir of Afghanistan, and about whose movements considerable interest has been taken by officials of Government and others, arrives in Calcutta to-day.

MR. MELTUS has been confirmed as Judge and Commissioner of the Assam Valley Districts and Mr. Maohar is confirmed Secretary to the Cohn Commissionerate.



REVIEW.

TANTRAKALPADRUM, PART I.—It contains the *Laghu kalipujya-paddhati* and *Kali-sahasra-nam* with the annotation of Purnananda Sv. It is published in the Bengali character, but, without a Bengali translation. It would have done no good to any body if such translation was given; as those who understand the Tantrik literature can do without a translation, but to the uninitiated the difficulty in understanding the true import cannot be overcome, however elaborate the vernacular rendering might be. This is the first instalment of the series which Babu Nilkamal Banerjee, the editor and compiler, wishes to publish, and the list of the Tantras, Damars, Jamals and Upantras, which he inserted in the introduction of this part, will be tempting to those who want to master the Tantrik literature. The care taken in bringing out a neat and correct publication like the one under review will, if continued to the last, surpass all previous attempts made in this direction.

THE PURUSA SUKTA.—Translated and explained by Mr. B. V. Kameswara Aiyar, M.A., Professor of English, Raja's College, Pudukottai. The Purusa Sukta is one of the most mystic hymns in the whole range of vedic literature and as such deserves to be carefully understood. Mr. Aiyar's exposition of that mystic Sukta is therefore a welcome addition to the literature on the subject. Besides giving the text, its translation and commentary, the author appends an explanatory note which throws much useful light on the obscurities of the Purusa Sukta. We commend the book to our readers.

SANDHYA-BANDANAM.—According to the Rik, Jojus and Sham Vedas; with a literal translation and explanatory paraphrase and commentary in English by the same author. The author, in a learned introduction, with which he prefaces the book, complains that most of us have not the slightest idea of what is meant by the several Mantras recited during the Sandhya. Yet, our shastras lay down that it is useless, if not mischievous, to recite the Mantras without a knowledge of their meaning. To remedy this mischief, the author, in the treatise before us, attempts to give a literal translation of the several Vedic texts used in the service of the Sandhya and offers such comments as he thinks necessary to elucidate their meaning. The several rites commencing with Achaman, which go to make up the worship of the Sandhya, are explained in order, showing at the same time how they are helpful in bringing about a reverential spirit in the Sandhya worshipper, leading naturally to a prayerful state of the mind in which it is fit to approach the throne of the Almighty.

THE UPANISHADS.—1st volume (Isa, Kena and Mandaka), 2nd volume (Katha and Prasna) published by V. C. Seshachari, B. A., B. L., M. R. A. S., Madras. The publisher, as he informs us in his preface, has undertaken the publication of the translations of the principal Upanishads into English with a view to bring within easy reach of the English-reading public the teachings of the Upanishads in the light of their interpretation by the great commentator Sree Sankaracharya. For this undertaking the publisher deserves the support and co-operation of the public specially of those who take an intelligent interest in the philosophy and religion of the Hindus. Up to the present, the five Upanishads named above, have been published with the translation of their text and Sankaracharya's commentary into English. Before July of the present year the publisher expects to bring out the volumes comprising the Aitareya, Taittiriya, Chandogya and Brihadaranyaka Upanishads with their translations and commentary done into English. We hope, that he will follow these up by the Mundakya and Shvetashvatara Upanishads, thus completing the list of Upanishads which Sankaracharya is believed to have written commentaries on. The printing and get up of the volumes live little to be desired; though we noticed in the text occasional slips in typography at places. The rendering of the commentary into English preserves in a great measure the spirit of the original and cannot fail to be a great help to the earnest student of these gems of Sanskrit literature. We commend these volumes to the notice of our readers.

THE Hon. D'Arcy Lambton, son of the Earl of Durham, wires a London correspondent, has obtained a decree nisi with the custody of his child and costs against the chief co-respondent Mr. Berridge, a wealthy Irishman. The wife's piteous confessions of drink, fraud and adultery were read in court.

The express connecting with the Dover boat at Calais overrode and dashed into a Brussels local train on Saturday last, so says a special cable from London. Twenty-one passengers were killed and eighty injured, eight hopelessly. None of the killed or injured were English.

This first issue of £400,000 shares of the Kalka-Simla Railway have, says the London correspondent of the Pioneer, been only partially taken up by the English public, who apparently consider that the Government guarantee is insufficient. Only one third has been subscribed. The whole, however, has been underwritten. The Chief Engineer, Mr. Harrington sails in March to commence operations forthwith.

The financial sensation of the moment in London, is the absconding of the Chairman and Managing Director of the Mill-Wall Docks Company. The annual report admits that the recent balance sheets were falsified, the assets being over-valued to the tune of quarter of a million sterling. The Board invariably confided in the Chairman's guarantee that the valuation was correct. The delinquent had a salary of £2,000 a year. A warrant for his arrest has been issued. Eight officials of the Company also are said to be implicated. The bank balance was overdrawn to the extent of £40,000.

The Best Medicine For Rheumatism.

"I THINK I would go crazy with pain were it not for Chamberlain's Pain Balm," writes Mr. W. H. Stapleton, Hermine, Pa. I have been afflicted with rheumatism for several years and have tried remedies without number, but Pain Balm is the best medicine I have got hold of. One application relieves the pain. For sale by SMITH STANLEY & CO. and B. K. PAUL & CO.

Law Intelligence.

HIGH COURT: CRIMINAL BENCH.—FEB. 24.

(Before Justices Prinsep and Stanley.)

CONVICTION OF PANCHAYETS: ADMISSIBILITY OF LOCAL ENQUIRY.

A CASE of some importance to the people in the mofussil was discussed this morning before their Lordships. The question was whether a trying Magistrate, before passing judgment in a case, could hold a local enquiry and supplement the information thus obtained to the evidence already taken in the case. The question arose in course of the hearing of the rule obtained on behalf of one Baicanta Nath Karak and another who were convicted by the Sub-divisional Magistrate of Uluberia under section 182, I. P. C., for giving false information to the police and sentenced to a fine of Rs. 100 each. The alleged false information was given in connection with a theft case. The police version of the case was that the accused, who are the Panchayets of a village called Boinechee, in Uluberia Sub-division, sent in a report to the police station stating that a theft had been committed in the house of a villager. The police after making an enquiry reported the case to be false, whereupon the petitioner, were placed on their trial, under section 182 of the I. P. Code before the Sub-divisional Magistrate. It appears that evidence was taken in court and the case concluded on the 29th September last; and the Deputy Magistrate postponed the case in order that he might visit the spot. This he eventually did, and on the 31st October, a month later, passed an order convicting the accused as stated above.

Babu Dasarathi Sanyal, who appeared for the petitioners, submitted that the Deputy Magistrate had no power in the Code to make a local enquiry in the case. There were only three instances in the Code of Criminal Procedure where such enquiry could be made.

Prinsep, J. observed that the Deputy Magistrate in his explanation said that he had inspected the spot to understand the evidence better. The pleader: That could hardly be, my Lord.

Stanley, J. pointed out that in his judgment the Deputy Magistrate said that he had held a local enquiry.

Babu Dasarathi Sanyal submitted that such was the case. What he complained of was that the Magistrate should have relied upon his local enquiry, for, in his judgment, he said: "I made a local enquiry and am satisfied that the accused are guilty."

Prinsep, J.—Surely there is no harm in inspecting the spot on y.

Mr. Sanyal: There is absolutely no power in the Code for so doing and if cases are to be decided on local enquiry where is the use of taking evidence in courts of justice under the elaborate procedure laid down in the Code. There is every danger of the Magistrate hearing many things outside the court. Further more in the present case there was no reason for making a local enquiry. The Magistrate cannot supplement his judgment by his explanation.

Mr. Leith in showing cause submitted that the Magistrate decided the case upon evidence and only inspected the spot. The late Chief Justice in a case reported in I. L. R. 21 Cal. laid down that the Magistrate after the conclusion of the evidence could make a local enquiry.

Prinsep, J.—Can you tell me why the Magistrate made a local enquiry in this case?

Mr. Leith in answer said that it might be to see how the theft was committed.

Their Lordships in delivering judgment said that it was difficult to see why the Magistrate had gone to hold a local enquiry in the case and there was a reasonable ground of complaint. They accordingly set aside the conviction and sentence and ordered the fine to be refunded.

A CUTWA MURDER CASE.

THIS was an appeal by Lal Sheik from the decision of the Sessions Judge of Burdwan who convicted him of murdering Kunjo Gorai and sentenced to pay the extreme penalty of the law. The facts of the case were that on the 10th November last one Kunjo Gorai of Nabagram, in the sub-division of Cutwa, was killed and his body thrown into a tank where after four days it was found floating. The appellant was the servant of the deceased and he was taken, to quote his own words, "to sleep by the side of the deceased, because Kunjo's wife, who died in Bhadra last, became an evil spirit after her death, and in that shape she used to visit Kunjo and shampoo his limbs. Kunjo was afraid of this spirit." Suspicion fell upon him and it was believed that he had murdered his master and robbed all his property. On the approach of the police the accused absconded and after a good deal of search he was arrested in a mosque where he had gone to say his prayers. As he was arrested in a mosque, so he said before the committing Magistrate, "I told the truth and did not care whether I would be hanged or murdered." This confession, however, he subsequently retracted. He told the Sessions Judge that he had made the confession because the police assaulted him. This was however not believed by all the jurors, three of whom returned a verdict of guilty, and the Sessions Judge agreeing with them sentenced the accused to death.

Babu Harendra Narian Mitter who appeared for the appellant pointed out many irregularities with regard to the recording of the confession and he contended that the evidence of the Deputy Magistrate ought to be taken with regard to the confession.

Their Lordships were unwilling to do so, but ultimately agreed to postpone the hearing and issue an order on the Sessions Judge directing him to take the evidence of the committing Magistrate.

ALLEGED IMPROPER INTERFERENCE BY A DISTRICT MAGISTRATE.

BABU JOY GOPAL GHOSH, Vakill, moved on behalf of Abilak Thakoor and 5 others for a rule upon the District Magistrate of Muzaffarpore to show cause why the order for further inquiry passed by the District Magistrate and the subsequent proceedings taken thereunder, should not be set aside. It appears that the present petitioners were put upon their trial before the Assistant Magistrate, Mr. Strong, on charges under sections 147 and 225 I. P. C., it having been alleged by them that while the Sub-Inspector, who was enquiring

into a case of rioting and cattle trespass, had made over two of the accused persons in that case to the custody of the complainant Harcharan Singh Constable, the present petitioners in a body rescued them from his custody. The Assistant Magistrate found that the case against the accused was concocted one and discharged the petitioners, at the same time calling upon the Sub-Inspector to show cause why he should not be reported to the District Superintendent of Police for having brought a false case. The District Superintendent thereupon wrote a letter to the District Magistrate and submitted the records of the case desiring him to direct further inquiry into the case. It appears that the District Magistrate then ordered a Subordinate Magistrate to hold a fresh inquiry and report. This Deputy Magistrate having submitted his report, the District Magistrate issued summons against the petitioners under the said sections to be tried before another Deputy Magistrate, and the trial of the case is now proceeding before him. Their Lordships after hearing the vakill granted a rule to show cause why the order for further inquiry and subsequent proceedings should not be set aside and further directed all further proceedings to be stayed pending the disposal of the rule.

NEPOLEONS OF CRIME.

MAJOR ARTHUR GRIFFITHS is probably better acquainted with the ways of clever criminals than any other man living, and he has often before now contributed interesting and valuable information under this head. His series of revelations entitled "Hushed Up" will be remembered by a great many readers. Recently Major Griffiths published two volumes which are as full of crime as an egg is of meat.

He has called them "Mysteries of Police and Crime" and their thousand pages are an extraordinary revelation of the genius which some people have possessed for wrong-doing.

One would have thought that the Royal crown and sceptre which are to be seen any day in the Tower of London would have been safe from thieves. Yet a certain Colonel Blood once rushed out of the Tower with the crown in his hands.

"He began," says Major Griffiths, "by assuming the disguise of a Doctor of Divinity, and as such he visited the Tower to see how the land lay. He was not long in gaining the friendship of Mr. Edwards, the keeper of the Regalia. They became so intimate, indeed, that a marriage was talked of between a supposed daughter of Blood's and a son of Mr. Edwards."

"The night before the attempt Blood asked Edwards to allow him, with certain friends, to inspect the Regalia at an early hour; and he came, with three accomplices, about eight o'clock next morning, with a whole scheme prepared for carrying off the jewels. Two of them, with blood, entered the Tower, leaving the third to hold their horses at the gate."

Mr. Edwards received the thieves without suspicion, and unlocked the door of the receptacle, when Blood and his companion attacked him, felled him with a wooden mallet, and laid hands upon the jewels. As they were stuffing them into a wallet the keeper's son, who, by some extraordinary chance, returned from abroad that very morning, entered the room and met the thieves coming out."

They might have secured him; instead, they ran off with the crown and the globe, but threw the sceptre down. It was too long to get into their bag. They rushed out on to the wharf, but were overtaken by the guard. The chief thief was seized, but struggled long, crying: "It is worth it; 'tis for a crown!"

It seems that in the struggle the bows of the crown were hammered flat, so as to make it more portable; and during the flight several precious stones fell out, including a great pearl and a fine diamond. The pearl was found by a poor woman employed as a sweeper by one of the wardens, and the diamond by a barber's apprentice, but both were faithfully restored. Most people know this queer story of the Queen's crown. £200,000 worth of jewels is an extraordinary amount to have in one's house to play with. But that was the value put upon the jewels of the late Duke of Brunswick. He kept them all in his Paris house in an enormous iron safe.

"They served no purpose, but to gratify his greedy passion for possession. Except when he took them out to gloat over them, these precious gems never saw the light. They were lodged in an inner apartment, to reach which it was necessary to pass through the duke's study and bed-room. Electric wires communicating with many bells guarded the safe to give warning of the approach of any unauthorised person. Other bells were attached to the triggers of revolvers that were fired off automatically at the intruder."

No wonder that every crack burglar coveted these jewels; but it was an English thief who got at them. In 1863 the duke had a valet who was looked upon as very quiet. He was a good servant and much liked; but he was really the agent of a gang of thieves.

One day the duke sent for a working jeweller, and in anticipation of his coming, opened the inner safe and left it open. His valet saw it. When the jeweller did not come, the duke went out, and, contrary to his habit did not close the inner safe, but contented himself with closing the outer door at the head of his bed.

Immediately he was gone the valet picked the lock of this door, and all the rest was easy. He filled his pockets with jewel cases, diamond stars, and bags of gold. Having packed his bag he told another servant to take up his work, as he was not well, and got away. But he was soon captured, for he foolishly offered to return certain jewels to their original owners, and the police laid hands on him, and he got twenty years' hard labour.

Major Griffiths has some extraordinary stories to tell of the illicit diamond trade. "Horses were made to swallow diamonds embedded in balls of meat; dogs, too, were given great lumps of meat which they bolted whole, with the diamond inside. The poor brutes were afterwards killed and cut open to recover the precious stones. The tails of oxen and the wings of fowls were converted into receptacles, and carrier-pigeons often travelled long distances weighted with diamonds."

Hatton Garden, as is well-known, is the centre of the diamond trade in England. From its post-office enormous quantities of diamonds are sent off. Near post-time Hatton Garden has probably the most valuable post-office in London. A gang of thieves evidently thought so in 1881. For, on a dark night, just when the mail-bags were waiting to be called for, the gas was cut off at the meter of the post office, and in the confusion bags containing diamonds to the value of £30,000 were carried off, and have never been seen since. Further, the criminals have never been discovered.

One day Major Griffiths went into the shop of a jeweller, a friend of his. "I noticed on his counter," he says, "a very valuable diamond lying exposed, and seemingly at the mercy of a dishonest visitor. When I expostulated with him he begged me to try and remove it. This was impossible, I found, for the stone was really underneath the glass. My friend told me that he had the number of pocket handkerchiefs that were dropped on it—quite by accident—by persons altogether above suspicion were uncommonly careful. A trick often played on them is this: Customers come in and ask to see some diamonds. 'Not the biggest or most valuable, but stones of good water to surround a pin or brooch, the design or drawing

for which he has brought with him on a card. A parcel of stones is brought and displayed upon the counter before the would-be buyer, who after turning them over, casually deposits the card sketch on the top of the parcel. There are a few fine points of fresh gum underneath which take up one or more of the precious stones." If the jeweller has not counted the stones he will be very serious loser over his job.

Major Griffiths once had a long talk with the notorious Charles Peace, when Peace lived at Peckham. He was a churchwarden, and much respected and esteemed. This should be remembered in connection with the following story. During the discussion Peace said:

"What is the good of telling the truth? No one believes you when you do. Now, listen to this: When I was 'Mr. Johnson' of Peckham I went into the chemist's one morning, smoking an excellent cigar. The chemist observed:

"That is very good tobacco, Mr. Johnson. Where do you get your cigars?"

"Steal them," I replied, perfectly frankly and truthfully. It was the absolute fact. I had stolen those cigars. But my friend the chemist thought it an excellent joke. He roared with laughter, and, of course, did not believe me in the least."

"I wish you'd steal me a few of the same kind," he said, and I very generously promised to do so.

"Some weeks afterwards I came across a very fine lot of Havanas in a house I visited rather late at night, and I secured them. The chemist got a box of them."

"There, Mr. So-and-So, I said, 'I have stolen you these. I hope you will like them.' Again he laughed loudly, and he no more believed me than before."

Incidentally Major Griffiths says that some of Charles Peace's tools are in the Black Museum at Scotland Yard.

"His jemmy, a perfect gem, is a neat, small bar of polished steel; he used a small vice for turning any key from the far side which had been imprudently left in the door. Peace's folding ladder has been preserved; it is a triumph of simplicity. When closed it looks like a bundle of sticks in short lengths, but it can be expanded like a lazy tongs upwards to a height of twelve feet. The top carries a hook to catch on to a window-ledge or any projection."

It is difficult to think of a man who keeps a big town house, a Brighton house, a fine cellar, and a first-class chef, being a city clerk at £200 a year. There must be some strong inducement to make the thing worth while. £70,000 was the inducement which attracted Walter Watts to accept £200 a year from the Globe Assurance Office.

He was then assistant clerk, whose duty it was to check the banker's passbook with the company.

"When the cheques were returned defaced, after payment, it was Watts's business to tie them up in bundles and put them by for further reference if necessary. This position enabled him to carry out a long series of depredations undetected. He altered the company's cheques wholesale, paid them into his private account, and then falsified the entries in the company's passbook to cover his obstructions."

"By this means he stole £70,000. He was a great and munificent patron of the stage, ran a couple of theatres of his own, and brought out many new pieces and many new stars. The balls and suppers he gave were famous throughout fashionable London." But they ceased when he became a convict.

Another clerk in the Transfer Department of the Crystal Palace Company, receiving £150 a year, swindled the Company out of £27,000; while a former registrar of the Great Northern Railway issued no less than £200,000 of fictitious railway stock to his own advantage.

These are some of the extraordinary stories Major Griffiths has to tell in his history of crime, and his unique knowledge lends a considerable importance to one special statement he makes in his volumes. He says that the person who was in all probability Jack the Ripper was found drowned in the Thames in 1888. He was a doctor in the prime of life and was believed to be insane or on the border of insanity. He disappeared immediately after the last murder on November 9th, 1888. Major Griffiths declares that even his own friends entertained grave doubts about him.

WHEN SHOULD ENGAGEMENTS BE BROKEN.

ON this subject, as on most others, there is something to be said on both sides. It is quite true that an engagement once entered into should be held sacred, the word once given should be considered a bond, and should not be broken except from the most serious causes.

In these days, to judge from the continual reports of breach-of-promise cases in the papers, such promises are but lightly thought of. There is far too much tendency to enter into these promises, and to contract an engagement lightly and inadvisedly, without due reflection on either side, or consideration as to circumstances that will arise which may make one wish to terminate it.

People constantly enter into what is one of the most solemn pledges in life—a pledge to take each other for better, or worse eventually as lightly as they would accept in invitation to a dinner party, and they marvel at the consequences!

When a woman breaks an engagement the world is apt to call her fickle and inconstant. When the breaking comes from the man's side there is frequently an idea that he may have been justified by the girl's conduct. Indeed, undetachable and wrong as the breaking of engagements is for any but the weightiest causes, most blame should attach to a man who does the breaking than to the woman. She is placed by this circumstance in a position of far greater humiliation and disadvantage than he is.

The woman whose fault it is supposed to be that an engagement has had to terminate must always suffer a certain slur in the eyes of the world; while if he is the one who breaks it, whether justly or unjustly, the man is apt only to get pity, and not blame. And yet there are many cases in which to break an engagement is far more right and just than to carry it out.

To keep to the letter in any case where the spirit is dead is often a futile effort. A few cases may be instanced in which to break an engagement is the only right and justifiable course. Where either side does not fulfil the contract, that contract ceases to have obligations. Legally, and in business, this is frankly acknowledged, and in other things also holds good.

A man who has asked a woman to be his wife, and having once obtained her promise, treats her with neglect, unkindness, or a lack of that affection he has previously shown her, has rendered himself liable to have her promise taken back, and no blame should attach to her for so taking it. The same may be said on the other side. Inconstancy to the promise once made is full reason for withdrawing that promise. It is a curious thing how little, very often, two people may know of each other's characters and dispositions up to the time that they have promised to spend their future lives together. The conditions of social life in this country are such that men and women have not the opportunities of meeting on such equal terms as to enable them to have a thorough and intimate acquaintance with other. Until an engagement is begun they have not the right of an unlimited amount of each other's society. It is painful to think how startling are often the discoveries made on both sides afterwards. It is far easier for people to ordinary society to hide their bad points under the ordinary conventionalities than to keep them hidden in the close intimacy allowed to an engaged couple.

Very often the man may find that the girl he thought was an angel before he proposed to her has a temper which provides an appalling prospect for spending his life with her. Whenever any serious incompatibility exists, and a future of unhappiness appears to be in prospect, it is a thousand times better to break the promise than to keep it in the face of a lifetime of mutual misery. Intemperate habits on either side—I say on either side, because unfortunately these are not only to be found on the side of the man—should be a reason for breaking off an engagement which can admit of no refusal. No woman who does not know the horrors of becoming a drunkard's wife should ever dream of experimenting on the subject. Under these circumstances she is apt to think that she can reform the man, and he will probably assure her that reformation is certain; but I would warn her that habits of intemperance, once contracted, are difficult indeed to break; and I have never seen an instance in which a man who would not reform for the sake of marrying a woman he cared for could be induced to do so afterwards.

Where there is a discovery of hereditary insanity, or any constitutional disease or weak sin that could be transmitted, it is not only justifiable, but it is right to terminate an engagement. Unworthy conduct on the part of either should also form sufficient reason. Perhaps the most ordinary reason for breaking off an engagement is the fact that the love which was supposed to exist exists no longer. Not infrequently the man may make a proposal of marriage almost at a moment of impulse. He supposes himself to care desperately for the girl when it is only a transitory fancy. He may afterwards discover that the feeling he has for another woman is far greater than that he has for the one who has promised to become his wife. In a case like this there is but one honest and noble course to pursue. He should tell the woman to whom he is bound that he has failed to keep faith with her, and ask for the release which, if she is wise, she will be only too glad to give him.

There have been circumstances—not few, but many—in which girls have entered into an engagement too early in life, when they did not know their own minds, and had too small experience of the world to know if the man who asked them to marry him is the one man they would have chosen from all others. There have been such instances when after a lapse of years and absence, that girl has found it almost impossible to fulfil the promise she has given.

She knows that she has not the love for him that the man expects from her. She knows that she cannot keep to her part of the contract in anything but the empty letter; and yet in many cases she has refused to speak from a fear of cruelly wounding the man who for so many years has believed in her, and has gone to the marriage feeling it to be a sacrifice so terrible that only a fortitude that is almost superhuman can enable her to carry it out.

Now, in a case of this sort, noble as is no doubt the feeling which actuates her, it is a wrong and mistaken one. She does not perhaps, pause to consider that, terrible as is the unhappiness she is consigning herself to, no less dreadful will be the wretchedness of the man who must discover after marriage that the woman whom he thought willing and eager to become his wife has no love for him. Let her tell it before herself honestly and plainly, whether it do to better at the risk of present pain to tell the truth rather than let him marry her, blinded only to awake to the knowledge of the case when it is far too late to mend it. To break an engagement, then, is not always wrong. Infinite mistakes would be saved, and innocent people less frequently blamed if engagements were more seldom entered into without a certainty that they could be kept, and if wherever any uncertainty exists, the benefit of the doubt was given to make people refrain from them.

KLONDYKE MINING KING.

"Yes," said Mr. Alexander MacDonald to an interviewer, "my seventy-eight mines in the Klondyke have been valued by the Government and other appraisers at \$27,000,000, and that is an under valuation."

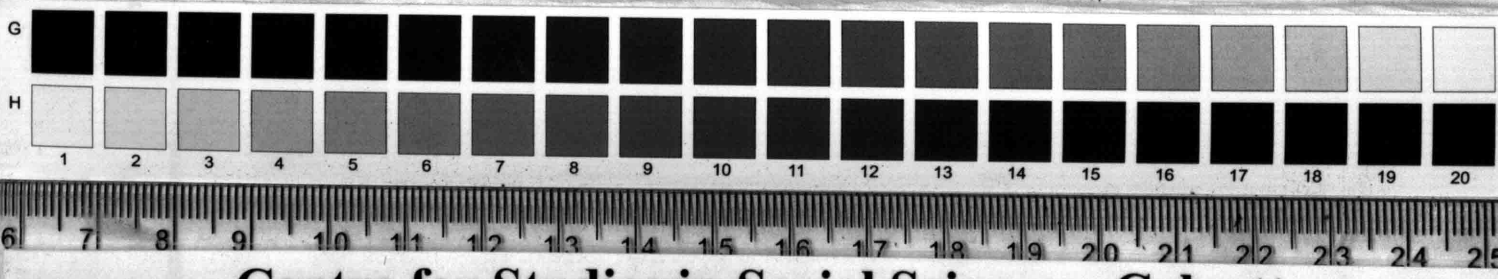
"And how many years have been required for you to make this large sum?"

"I entered my first claim on October 9th, 1896, about 18 months ago, and have taken \$200,000 cash from it since that day. But work in Klondyke is slow now. There is no machinery in the country. All gold is panned, and it is tiresome as well as tedious. The miner washes the gravel in a pan and picks out the pieces of gold. We keep the gold until we get sufficient to send to the bank. Then we deliver it to one of the four companies there are at Dawson making a business of transporting gold, and they take it down the river to Skagway or St. Michael's, where it is put aboard the ocean steamers and taken to San Francisco and changed into cash."

LONDON'S THIRST.

SOME curious particulars are given in the *Homes Magazine* concerning what London drinks every year. No less than 275,000,000 gallons of water find their way annually down the throats of Londoners. But Londoners don't drink water only. The beer consumed amounts to 153,000,000 gallons every year, equal to a distribution of almost a pint to every man, woman, and child in the world. Of neat spirits London demands about 4,400,000 gallons a year. Our tea drinkers are an army of millions, and call for twenty-five million pounds of tea, which when reduced to liquid consistency, means something like 1,250,000,000 pints, or nearly a pint for every inhabitant in the world. Our teapot, if properly shaped, would comfortably take in the whole of St. Paul's Cathedral, for it contains over 928,000 cubic yards. Of sweet waters London drinks 20,000,000 gallons every year.

In continuing his confessions Hari Chapekar is alleged to have said:—At the instance of Damodhar, he drew in a letter figures resembling the flowers which were on the swords found under the bridge. After Damodhar's arrest, he and Balkrishna ran away. After an absence of ten months he and Wasudeo returned to Poona, where he was arrested, and after making a false statement to the Magistrate, was released. After Damodhar was hanged, he and Ranade conspired to murder Ramjee and the Dravids. The latter they accomplished that night, because he did not wish them to give evidence next day against his brother Balkrishna. He then relates how he attempted to shoot Ramjee at the Farashkhana, but failed, as he was held down by Inspector Brehin and relieved of his pistol. He concluded this confession by saying that Balkrishna did not take any part in the Jubilee murders, but that the latter was aware of the conspiracy to murder Mr. Rand. The confession of the third prisoner, Sathe, was then read out. In this confession Sathe admits having joined in a conspiracy to murder the Dravids, and was aware of the conspiracy to murder Mr. Rand, but that he himself did not commit any of the crimes. The case for the prosecution here closed, and no defence having been offered, the three accused were committed to the Sessions.



CLAIMS FOR CORONETS.

THE pending claim of Viscount Hinton to the earldom of Paulet recalls to mind the fact that there are a number of persons in various quarters of the globe who consider themselves entitled to peerages of more or less ancient renown.

America is wonderfully fertile in regard to claims of this and other kinds, the majority of which, it is to be feared, exist only in the lively imaginations of those who advance them. Nearly twelve months ago a report reached England from the United States that a sensational case relating to the title and estates of the Earl of Huntingdon might very soon have to be dealt with by the law courts.

The claimants, who were persons of the name of Hastings, residing in different parts of America, set up to be the descendants of one William Hastings, who himself put forward a similar claim early in the present century. But the fact that he decided to abandon his claim, after going to England to endeavour to enforce it does not seem to have prevented his successors from hoping to succeed where he had failed. Up to the present time, however, the earl has not been deprived of his title or possessions, nor has anything more been heard of the prospective claimants.

A few weeks afterwards the interesting discovery was made that a young man working as a draper's porter in Halifax, was "heir to an earldom and a very large and wealthy estate." According to those "in the know," there was no doubt that the young man has in the direct line of succession, but, as in many other instances, there were certain intricate points of law to be cleared up.

In the meantime the young man, with a discretion which did him infinite credit, was content to continue in his humble employment, and is probably the still. What the peerage was to which he aspired did not transpire.

Canada not long ago furnished a claimant, in the person of a commercial traveller, to the dormant earldom of Monticith. So far back as the year 1839 Captain Barclay, of Allardie, made a gallant fight for this title, but without success. The later claimant, however, was confident of the validity of his case, which the most eminent authority on the history of Scottish families, was said to regard as well-founded.

This earldom was extinguished by King James I. in a moment of pique but the legality of such action is open to question. The developments of this Canadian claim to the title have been awaited with interest though up to the present they have not arisen.

Another Scottish earldom—that of Caithness—has within the last twelve months been claimed by Rev. John Sinclair, minister, of Kinloch Rannoch, in opposition to the present holder. The title is a very old one, having been created so far back as the year 1455, and the present earl is the seventeenth in the line of succession.

Mr. Sinclair traces his descent from a brother of the eighth earl, and contends that on the death of the ninth earl the title should have passed to his ancestor's grandson, on the plea of whose illegitimacy it went to a descendant of the fourth earl.

If the claimant succeeds in proving that the eighth earl's brother married his housekeeper, and thus gave legitimacy to their descendants, he will have practically made out his case.

IN the Karabgaon collision case, Mr. Pratt, the Sessions Judge, Sholapore, acquitted Guard Daniel, who appealed against the decision of the Magistrate of Sholapore. Mr. Sealey, a Bombay Pleader, instructed by the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants, appeared for the Guard.

AN Indian-rubber yielding plant to which attention has for some time past been directed is the Bombay climbing plant *Vilajitvakundi* (*Cryphoslegia Grandiflora*). The plant is common in many other parts of India, and yields juice which, it is said, returns 50 to 70 per cent of good rubber. Experts, to whom samples have been sent, have reported very favourably on them, although they were not properly prepared. The rubber itself is good and it is estimated would realise from 2s. 6d. to 3s. per pound cleared of foreign matters. In Sindh the plant is known as *Chabuk Chharri* and the milky juice has been for ages used as a bird lime. The plant is certainly worthy of close attention as the product obtained from it may hereafter prove of great commercial value.

HIS Excellency Sir Arthur Elibank Havelock, G.C.M.G., G.C.I.E., who arrived in Calcutta on Wednesday, where he is staying with the Viceroy is the son of Colonel Havelock—the elder brother of the famous Sir Henry Havelock—who was A.D.C. to Baron Allen the battle of Waterloo and subsequently Colonel of the 14th Light Dragoons, at the head of which regiment he fell in the Sikh War. Sir A. Havelock entered the 32nd Light Infantry in 1862, became Chief Commissioner of the Seychelles in 1874, Colonial Secretary in Fiji 1875, Administrator of St. Lucia 1878, Governor of the West African Settlements 1881, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Trinidad 1894, Governor of Natal and Zululand 1885 and of Ceylon from 1890 till 1895, when he was appointed Governor of Madras. He married the only daughter of Sir William Norris. Since his arrival in India Sir Arthur Havelock has been known as the governing factor in his own Government, a man whose invariable urbanity and courtesy are combined with very decided opinions and a broad statesmanlike grasp of administrative problems. He has travelled widely in the Madras Presidency since his appointment, and has made himself known personally to most of his officers. His Excellency has till now been exceptionally favoured by the praise alike of the European, and the Native Press of the Southern Presidency in which during his term of office sustained and unsensational progress has been the characteristic feature, and a calm undisturbed by Kissing and Kitten cases. Sir Arthur Havelock's personal tastes are artistic and social, and Lady Havelock has manifested a sincere interest in those subjects which more nearly concern the wives of governing personages.—*The Pioneer*.

For the Babies.

THERE is no better medicine for the baby than Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It is pleasant to taste and prompt and effectual cure make it a favorite with mothers and small children. It quickly cures their coughs and colds, prevents pneumonia or other serious consequences. It also cures croup and has been used in tens of thousands of cases without a single failure so far as we have been able to learn. It not only cures croup, but when given as soon as the croupy cough appears, will prevent the attack. In cases of whooping cough it liquefies the tough mucus, making it easier to expectorate, and lessens the severity and frequency of the paroxysms of coughing, thus depriving that disease of all dangerous consequences. For sale by

SMITH STANISTREET & CO. and
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THE HON'BLE MR. TURNER ON THE MUNICIPAL BILL.

HERE is what Mr. Turner said on the Municipal Bill at the Annual Meeting of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, held on Tuesday afternoon at the Royal Exchange:

In regard to provincial legislation the most important and prominent measure which has come before the Bengal Council, for consideration during the past year has been the Municipal Bill, which is fully referred to in the Report already in your possession. As your representative on that Council I considered it my duty to support with all my power the Bill, which I consider so essential and so desirable from every point of view. Essential, because in all large cities it is of the first importance that the controlling Municipal authority should be strong and representative, energetic and progressive. Desirable, because with the present prospect of that most dangerous disease plague, invading our city at any time, we must be prepared in anticipation, and by adopting the most necessary sanitary precautions we should at least endeavour to free this great city, the capital of India, from the accusation of being disgracefully backward in the principles of sanitation. It has been hinted in certain quarters that the Government of Bengal are desirous of letting the measure drop, but this I am able to deny most absolutely and authoritatively. The Bill has been in Select Committee for some little time and should be ready to be submitted to the Council by the end of March. I hope it will pass into law not later than the autumn session of this year. You must remember that the Bill contains 600 sections, and is a measure which it is impossible to pass through hurriedly or without the thorough consideration now being given to it.

I would also like to say that the accusation made now and again of obstructiveness on the part of those members of the Select Committee who oppose the principles of the Bill are without foundation. The opponents of the measure have contested every contestable point, but in doing so they have simply done their duty to their constituents, and had they failed in their duty they would have been much to blame. I wish to say publicly that I consider no time has been lost in the consideration of the Bill in Select Committee, and I would congratulate Mr. E. N. Baker on the very able manner in which he has piloted the Bill through Committee. A most important question which must engage the attention of all before long will be the improvement of Calcutta. Most of us know what is required in the way of opening up of congested areas in the most thickly populated parts of the city, but few of us, I think, would like to give an opinion as to how the money required for the purpose of improvements can be raised. Bombay is ahead of us in this respect; an Improvement Trust has been formed in that city, and the members are already at work, but both Bombay and Calcutta will be severely handicapped for funds, and seeing how great is the importance of the work, and that Bombay and Calcutta are two of the great gates of trade in India, I consider we should be quite justified in asking the Imperial Government to come to our assistance by means of pecuniary grants from the Imperial Exchequer. We may look upon plague as likely to stay in the country for some years, perhaps it may become an epidemic disease in India in which case it is the more necessary that the ports of India should be made as complete as practicable in point of sanitation, so that there would be the least possible danger of a check to the commerce of the country. We cannot help remembering that during the past five years about 5½ crores of rupees have been spent in frontier expeditions. It seems therefore not unreasonable that a few crores should now be spent in putting the seaports of India into a proper position to withstand the attacks of disease and for their general improvement.

ONE of the subjects which are likely to engage the attention of the Government forthwith is the armament of the Native Army. Reports show that a large percentage of Martini Rifles are worn out, and their replacement must necessarily be speedily undertaken.

CURRENT PRICE REPORT.

	Rs.	S.	P.	Per Mds.
Potato	1	7	0	"
Flour	12	10	0	"
Cotton fine	12	10	0	"
Do fully good	11	10	0	"
Cutch (Singapore)	9	10	0	"
Do (Rangoon) No. 1	12	2	0	"
Ginger (fair Bengal)	8	4	0	"
Jute Sikdar Narainigong	No. 2	31	0	"
Do Do No. 3	28	2	0	"
Do (Rejections only)	17	0	0	"
Castor Oil No. 1 Fine pale	15	7	0	" mds.
Do Thirds yellow	12	10	0	"
Rice Table or Seeta	4	12	0	"
Do Do (inferior)	0	0	0	"
Do Balam No. 1	3	5	0	"
Do No. 2	3	4	0	"
Do No. 3	3	2	0	"
Do Moongy	1	3	4	"
Ghee (Buxar)	29	3	0	"
Do Matki	36	10	0	"
Saltpetre 5% crude	7	2	0	"
Do 15% Do	5	2	0	"
Sugar (Dulohash)	7	0	0	"
Do Chanderpore akdra	6	0	0	"
Wheat club No. 2	3	0	0	"
Do Hard Red	3	0	0	"
Do Soft Red	0	0	0	"
KEROSENE OIL				
American Snowflake	4	15	0	per case
Do Chester	3	3	6	"
Do Tiger	3	3	6	"
Sumatra Crown	0	0	0	Per Case
Rangoon Victoria	3	6	0	"
Mica—Ruby uncut clear above	36	48	Rs. 600	per mds
Do Do	15	23	" 250	"
Do Do	10	14	" 150	"
Do Do	6	10	" 60	"

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An Editor's Life Saved by Chamberlain Cough Remedy.

DURING the early part of October, 1896, I contracted a bad cold which settled on my lungs and was neglected until I feared that consumption had appeared in an incipient state. I was constantly coughing and trying to expel something which I could not. I became alarmed and after giving the local doctor a trial bought a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy and the result was immediate improvement, and after I had used three bottles my lungs were restored to their healthy state.—B. S. EDWARDS, Publisher of The Review Wyant, Ill. For sale by

SMITH STANISTREET & CO. and
B. K. PAUL & CO.

CHASED FLYING DYNAMITE.

ALOCOMOTIVE'S THRILLING RUN DOWN A MOUNTAIN.

JOHN S. HINTON made his last trip as an engineer after more than forty years' service on a half-dozen railways of the East and West. The last trip was made at the throttle of a locomotive pulling the through flyer between New York, Chicago, Denver, Salt Lake and San Francisco, and when the engine was run into the roundhouse, Hinton completed one of the most remarkable records ever made by an engineer in the United States—forty-three years in a locomotive cab without having in a railway wreck that cost a life.

"What was my most thrilling experience during the forty-three years I have been on the road?" repeated Hinton as the question was asked him. "Well, that is not a hard question to answer, as the experience resulted in giving me possession of the snug little ranch up near Greeley where I intend to spend the rest of my days."

He told the story, but suppressed the name of the railroad, saying that the company had stood by him many years, and he did not wish to give it a black eye.

"In the '70s," said Hinton, "I was running an engine on the old Southern Minnesota road, now a part of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul system. The line had been built from La Crosse, Wis., west 170 miles through the southern tier of counties in Minnesota by the late Colonel C. W. Thompson as a land-grant road. After Colonel Thompson had received several hundred thousand acres of the finest lands in the West for the construction of the line, the company passed into the receivership stage, the receiver being W. C. McIlraith of St. Paul. McIlraith undertook to meet the requirements of the Court in the payment of claims, and in extending the necessary economy failed to pay the wages of employees for four or five months. The result was an agreement to strike, and one morning an engine was run out of a roundhouse the entire length of the line. I was at Ramsey Junction when a message came signed by the receiver, asking where my engine was. I was pert in those days, and sent what I thought was a funny answer: 'In the roundhouse waiting for back pay.' McIlraith did not appreciate the humour of the answer, and the next day when he had scraped together money enough to pay off the boys my envelope contained the amount due me to date, and another man went out on my run. But that is another story, and this is only intended to show how I happened to come West and get tangled up with running on these Western roads."

"When I came West I got a job of firing on the H. L. and K. road, and if you know anything about mountain roads you know that it is the roughest road in the country—not ten rods of straight track in the whole 900 miles of right of way, and not a foot that has not a grade and a stiff one at that. Well, I kept an old-fashioned camel back wagon on that road for three years, and then got a freight run. I held this down until transferred to a pusher on Big Hill. Big Hill is only twelve miles long, but it has a grade averaging 14 feet to the mile; and the principal part of the grade is in spots. Six loaded cars made a train up this hill, and this train of six cars was hauled and pushed up the grade by two engines. My engine was stationed permanently on the hill, and its duty was to couple to the back end of one of these trains and help it up the grade. About three roundtrips made a day's work, so you see it was a good deal of a snap."

"At the top of the hill was a sidetrack called Action, but no telegraph operator was stationed there. At the foot of the grade was Buckley, a telegraph office in the centre of a big sidetrack system used for breaking up trains before sending them up the grade in sections. Eight miles below Buckley was an Abandoned Mining Town named Campton. Here was a set of sidetracks and switches, while the disused telegraph office was occupied by a one-legged pensioner of the company, a flag man and his 10-year-old daughter. Twelve miles further down the line was Mountain Springs, now one of the foremost summer resorts in the mountains, and even twenty years ago much frequented by Eastern health seekers. I explain all this so that you will readily understand what happened."

"I had been shoving trains up Big Hill two years without a mishap when I had an experience that turned my hair white in ten minutes and gave me a life job, and the best run on the road. And it came about through a disobedience of orders, too."

"The management of the road was always afraid of an accident on the hill through a train becoming unmanageable, and in my cab, directly over the steam gauge, hung this warning in big black type:

Warning.
Engineers of Pushers Are Warned
That Under No Conditions Must
An Engine Be Uncoupled from a
Train That Is Not in Motion. Dis-
regard of this order means
Instant discharge.

"While knowing that an order of this kind is for something, and that its disobedience may mean disaster, a railroad man will, in time come to look upon it as something to be obeyed if convenient and to be slighted if he feels like it. And so it came that when we were in a hurry we cut off the engine from the train, even if it had been brought to a stop. On this particular day in June of which I am speaking we were in a hurry. We had run No. 17 up the hill and were ordered on to the sidetrack at Action to get out of the way of No. 11, the through train from the South that was coming North as a double header and with a third big engine pushing her. No. 11 was a regular, but was making this trip as an excursion train, and was made up of eight coaches crowded with people from the East who had been at Mountain Springs, attending some big convention."

"As the freight we were shoving came to standstill, my fireman leaped to the ground and uncoupled the engine from the last car, and I backed down over the switch and then ran ahead on the sidetrack. While this was being done the brakeman had the train in front of the last two cars, and the regular engine in front had started ahead with the other cars toward the north switch to back the four cars in on the spur."

"As I shut off steam, and centred the reverse lever my eyes fell on the order hanging over the steam gauge, and for some reason, the warning gave me a shock, a feeling of danger that I had never experienced in the many times the order had been ignored. Even then I was not alarmed when I saw that the two cars were moving slowly down the hill, and I watched them only long enough to see the rear brakeman clamber up the side ladder and seize the brake wheel. Then I tried the water in the boiler, started the injector, and again glanced at the cars. Evidently the brake on the first car was out of order, as the cars were moving more rapidly and the brakeman was hastening toward the brake on the second car. He grasped it and swung around and nearly fell to the ground. The brake chain was broken, and there was nothing to hold the cars."

"In an instant the picture of an awful horror flashed before my eyes. No. 11, crowded with passengers, was coming, and those cars running at terrific speed, would crash into the train, carrying death and destruction to scores if not hundreds. The scene at the moment the realization of the impending disaster came over me is before me now as plainly as on that day, nearly twenty-five years ago—the moving cars, the brakeman stumbling toward the side ladder to descend, the long line of shining rails leading down the divide, the fireman standing near the switch staff and gazing toward the cars with eyes that reflected the horror in my own, and thirty miles below on the line of the twisted,

winding track a faint blur of smoke that told me No. 11 had left Mountain Springs.

"Before the moving cars crossed the switch, we all knew what must be done. The fireman, James Hurd, he is a passenger engineer on the Denver and Rio Grande Road now had thrown the switch and swung himself on to the footboard back of the tank, and the old 105 was in pursuit of the runaway. The brakeman remained to close the switch, and Hurd was bracing himself, to couple the engine to the swift-moving cars when we should approach them."

"No steam is ever used in going down that hill, at the top of the incline the throttle valve is closed, and the speed of the train is controlled by the airbrake. But as Jim Hurd took his stand on the footboard, I opened the throttle until I had her under control, and then away we went. The runaway cars were fully 100 yards ahead as we crossed the switch, and were moving apparently at the rate of eight or ten miles an hour with rapidly increasing momentum. In sixty seconds old 105 was running fifty miles an hour, and in thirty seconds more we were close to the cars. I heard Jim's voice faintly above the rattle and roar as he shouted something, and knowing that it was too slow down in order to approach the cars without a crash, I applied the air. A slight jolt told me the engine and car had come together, and after waiting an instant to give Hurd time to drop the pin in place, I pulled the air valve to lessen the speed. As the engine slowed under the pressure of the brake I saw the cars glide away from us. He had missed the coupling. Again engine and cars came together and again I applied the air, with the same result."

"We were running now at a speed of sixty or seventy miles an hour, and when you consider that the track on the hill is the crookedest ever surveyed by an engineer, cut up by deep ravines and canons and leading along high precipices, you can appreciate the danger of the run. Down the hill we thundered, swinging through deep cuts and around sharp curves, the engine swaying and swinging on her springs as if struggling in an effort to dash herself into one of the gorges lining the track. The engine was surrounded by rolling clouds of dust through which at times I caught glimpses of the cars, pitching and tossing like some dismasted vessel in a sea. I knew the cars might jump the track at any moment—and there was a right good chance for their doing so—and ditch the locomotive, chancing the fireman and myself to quick death; so we must take the chances so long as there was a possibility of stopping the runaway."

"Again and again we tried to make the coupling, but failed each time. I did not know until all was over the difficulties the fireman was experiencing. The drawback in the car was the old-fashioned single link bumper—a man killer, we call it now—and was so loose in its socket that it had to be raised six or eight inches and held in position while the link was being put in place. This required two hands, and as the fireman could not maintain his position on the swaying footboard without using one hand to cling to the hand rail, he could not get the link in place and drop the pin through it."

"By this time we were within three miles of Buckley. As the locomotive and fleeing cars dashed across a trestle 100 feet high I caught a glimpse of the little telegraph shanty down in the valley surrounded by a network of rails. I opened the whistle and kept it shrieking until we were within 200 yards of Buckley, but no one appeared on the station platform; and as we flashed past the telegraph office the white face of the operator, his eyes wide open with alarm and horror, appeared at the window for the fraction of an instant."

"As we dashed past the telegraph office the long arm of the signal board pointed down, and I thanked God that the next block was still open and that we had another chance for life. We had eight miles of clear track and might yet prevent a disaster. The only hope, however, was in catching the runaway cars, as there was no telegraph office at Campton, and No. 11 had left Mountain Springs and was booming toward us as fast as three big engines could send her, and without a stop ahead."

"We crossed the half mile of sidetracks at Buckley so fast that there was an unbroken rattle of clanking rails, and swung around the point of the mountain, and down the winding track toward Campton. Over swaying bridges, through cuts—the old 105 jolted us along at the rate of seventy or eighty miles at hour. In two minutes after crossing the yards at Buckley we were within sight of Campton, nestling below us in the valley. Hurd had been silent seemingly four hours—and whether he was still at his post or had fallen on the rails and been ground to pieces I did not know. I realized now that there was no longer a possibility of stopping the cars by coupling to them, and what my hope was, if I had any at all, I do not know; there was only a mad determination to follow that runaway engine of destruction to the end and die with the rest. No, it was not heroism; it was pure recklessness, and the thought that if four or five score of human beings were to perish through my carelessness I would die with them."

"As the roofs of Campton came into view the whistle began to sound again. Three miles below lay the half deserted mining camp; now I could see the rough board station, the red and white switch targets, and the dark spots on the mountainside that marked the abandoned test shafts. Then I distinguished a form on the station platform, a slender form in dark calico and wearing a sun bonnet. Even at that distance I could see the grace of the slow step. The woman's back was toward me but I knew her to be Nettie Bascom, the daughter of the one-legged flagman. It was ten seconds, perhaps, before the girl heard the whistle; then she turned slowly, looked an instant toward us, and with a quick spring was at a switch stand and had thrown the lever, and the white of the target turned to red—and No. 11 and her freight were safe."

"I quickly brought the engine to a stop as the two cars turned into the siding—a safety spur built just such a purpose as this—and moved up steep incline toward dozen stout piles driven deep into the earth and reinforced by a pile of rocks, to act as a bumper for runaway cars."

"As the old 105 came to a stop I staggered to the ground and met Hurd as he stepped off the footboard. Said he, 'Bill, I—' What he intended to say I never learned as his words were drowned by an explosion that lifted the 105 off the rails, knocked off her headlight and smoke stack, and blew the cab into splinters. Every building in the town was blown down, and it was only due to the fact that the place was practically deserted that there weren't any number of people killed."

"Those cars we had chased for thirty miles or more were loaded with dynamite, and when they crashed into the deadwood at the end of the safety spur the whole thing exploded."

"And as we stood there in the wreckage No. 11, with her seven coaches crowded with excursionists, went bowling by. If the dynamite cars had met the express train, you ask? That's the thought that turned my hair white."

"That's the story, and now I have finished my running. I am going up to my ranch near Greeley that the company gave me for chasing those cars down the hill that day. The girl that threw the switch? She'll be there, too. She has been a half owner in that ranch since two months after she saved the train."

A SHARP shock of earthquake was experienced at Rawalpindi on Tuesday night between eleven and twelve o'clock, awakening nearly every one and creating considerable alarm during the short time it lasted. Fortunately no material damage appeared to have been done.

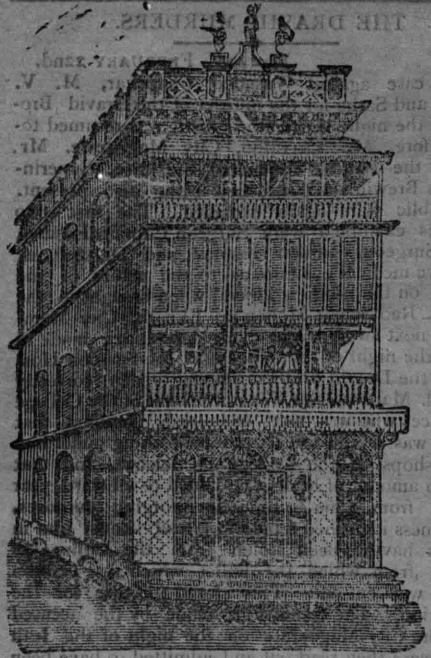
THE DRAVID MURDERS.

BOMBAY, FEBRUARY 22nd.

THE case against Wasudeo Chapekar, M. V. Ranade and Sathar for the murder of the Dravid Brothers on the night of the 10th instant, was resumed to-day before Mr. Carvalho, City Magistrate. Mr. Joshi, of the Police, conducted the case. The first two witnesses examined were Surgeon Captain Easton, House Surgeon, Sassoon Hospital, and Dr. Sahnis, who gave medical evidence as to the nature of the wounds on the brothers Dravid when brought to the hospital. Rao Sahab Mohan Raj Eknath, City Mamladar, next swore to the dying depositions made to him on the night of the tragedy at the Sassoon Hospital by the Dravid brothers having been correctly recorded. Maria Omar, Superintendent of the College of Science who was next examined, deposed that Ranade was a third year student working under him in the shops in the College of Science, and that a certain amount of lead was issued to all third year students from time to time for forging purposes. The witness identified a piece of lead shown him in court as having been stolen from the College of Science, from which the bullet which shot Ganesh Dravid was cut out. This closed the case for the prosecution. The confessions made by the accused before the City Magistrate on the night of the 10th instant were then read out and admitted to have been correctly recorded, by all three accused. Ranade's confession was to the effect that he took part in the murders of Mr. Rand and Lieutenant Ayerst on Jubilee night, that Damodhar Chapekar had murdered Mr. Rand, and he and he had shot Lieutenant Ayerst, that Biseuti and Balkrishna had absconded to Bombay after the arrest of Damodhar, and they both were aware of the design to murder Mr. Rand, which designs had been formed over two months previous. The object for murdering Mr. Rand was that people suffered much from the plague measures. Damodhar had murdered Rand. After the arrest of Balkrishna, he and Wasudeo had consulted together to murder Ramji Pandoo and the two Davids, as they gave evidence in the case against Damodhar. They, therefore, got one six chambered revolver, one single barrelled pistol, with gunpowder, caps and bullets, for the purpose. They planned to murder Ramji Pandoo. He and Wasudeo used to sit night ly in a temple in the city waiting to shoot Ramji. They did so for about a fortnight. On the Friday previous to the murder of the Dravid Brothers Wasudeo fired at Ramji but the bullet having accidentally fallen out before he pulled the trigger, he was unable to do so. They went to the Davids house where they told Ganpatrao and Ram Chunder Dravid that Mr. Brevin wished to see them. After going with them along the road for about 50 paces, he and Wasudeo shot both the Davids simultaneously. The next day they were called to the Farashkhana, and he (Ranade) was told by Wasudeo to take a loaded pistol with him and shoot Ramji Pandoo at the Farashkhana, or any one else who hindered him in carrying out his device. Thereupon he ran away and Wasudeo an instant after. Two or three days previous to the 8th instant, an attempt was made to murder the Dravid Brothers, but no opportunity offered. On the night of Friday, the 8th instant, they were lying in wait for Ramji but could not see him, whereupon they planned to murder the Dravid Brothers. They dressed themselves up like Mahomedans and went and attempted to kill him. While at the Farashkhana he (Ranade) heard the report of a pistol. He was taken to a room from whence the report came, and found there that Wasudeo had fired at Ramji but missed him. He (Ranade), then, admitted to the police that he and Wasudeo had shot the Davids and intended shooting Ramji. The conclusion of this lengthy statement showed that Ranade had joined Damodhar in watching Mr. Rand's movements previous to the Jubilee tragedy. Hari Chapekar's confession, which was then read, showed that he was also implicated in the Jubilee murders, in that he kept watch that night at Government House gate, and shouted to his brother, Damodhar, as soon as he saw Mr. Rand's carriage leaving Government House. The persons who were engaged in killing Mr. Rand had their respective work assigned to them by Damodhar. It further stated that he had also joined in watching the movements of Mr. Rand previous to Jubilee day; that he and his party went to the Council Hall on the afternoon of the 22nd June, 1897, to look for Mr. Rand's carriage, but failing there they went to St. Mary's Church and there saw Mr. Rand. They followed his carriage up to Guneshkind and waited for Mr. Rand and Lieutenant Ayerst. Wasudeo threw all the weapons they carried under the bridge on the Guneshkind Road. Ranade had shot Lieutenant Ayerst as his carriage was very close to Mr. Rand's and he feared detection. After these murders he and Damodhar went to Bombay, where Damodhar wrote the following letter to the Government: "I am a Gazi. You are troubling the Brahmans for nothing. I am a real Gazi, and have killed Mr. Rand, therefore you find me out."

THE YUSSUF-UD-DIN CASE.

THE further hearing of the suit for over four lakhs brought by Yussuf-ud-din against the Secretary of State for India in Council was resumed on 22nd February, before the District Judge of Secunderabad. The plaintiff's pleader intimated that he had no rejoinder to file to the defendant's reply to the plaint, and in the course of his argument wished to know from the opposite side on which ground and under which circumstances the statute of limitation was pleaded by the defendant as a bar to the suit. The defendant's pleader declined at this stage to disclose the reason beyond suggesting the plaintiff's delay in coming into Court. Before arriving at the issues which were subsequently framed, the plaintiff's pleader admitted that the suit was not for damages for a malicious prosecution by the Government of India or for his wrongful arrest, but for the continued loss sustained by the plaintiff in consequence of the illegal proceedings of the officers of the Government of India. He contended that the criminal proceedings against Yussuf-ud-din were admittedly wrong as set out in the judgment of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, and that therefore there was no question of damages on that point. If Mr. Ramchandra Pillai defendant's Council, wished to revive the criminal side of the case, he had no objection, whereupon Mr. Pillai said that he decidedly intended to bring forward evidence if necessary to show that the criminal charge was not unfounded. The question for determination, however, was whether the Government of India was responsible for the acts of their officers in this case. The following issues were then framed by the Court, and the case adjourned for agreement on the issues of law till the 29th March: (1) Is the defendant liable for the damages alleged to have been caused to the plaintiff by the wrongful acts of all or any of the officers mentioned in the plaint? (2) Was the charge against the plaintiff altogether unfounded as alleged by him? If so is the defendant in view of the order of Her Majesty referred to in the plaint, liable in damages to the plaintiff in respect thereof? (3) Is the claim or any portion thereof barred by limitation? (4) Was the notice referred to in the plaint duly delivered and left in accordance with section 424 of the Code of Civil Procedure? (5) Did the plaintiff's cause of action, if any, arise partly within the jurisdiction of this Court and partly elsewhere, and on the 3rd August 1897 as alleged in the plaint, or on any other date? (6) What damages, if any, is the plaintiff entitled to receive from the defendant? Mr. Cookerjee, plaintiff's pleader objected to the second issue on the ground that it was not necessary at all, Mr. Pillai objected to the words "in view of the order of Her Majesty" referred to in the plaint in connection with the second issue. The Court overruled both objections.

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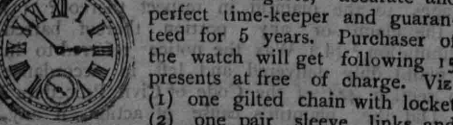
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